2025/2026

ANNUAL REVIEW



VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025/2026

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Victorian Institute of Sport acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across Victoria where sport is played, supported and celebrated. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and to all First Nations communities, recognising their deep and lasting contribution to Australian sport.

COVER IMAGE: SCOTTY JAMES, SNOWBOARD
CREDIT: GETTY

VIS 2025/2026

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP
Minister for Sport

It's been another outstanding 12 months for the Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS), with our state's best athletes representing Victoria with pride on the world stage.

The 2026 Winter Olympic Games, Milano Cortina, Italy, saw VIS athletes perform at the pinnacle of their sports, with Scotty James (snowboard) and Danielle Scott (aerial skiing) both delivering brilliant silver medal performances. Their success led a strong Victorian contribution to the Australian Winter Olympic Team and set the tone for an exciting cycle ahead on the road to LA 2028, the French Alps 2030 and a home Games in Brisbane 2032. Milano Cortina is now a golden memory, and the VIS is already back to work with the ambition and drive required for the journey ahead.

I was delighted to see the VIS strengthen its commitment to world-leading research this year, with the appointment of Dr Ebonie Rio as Professor of Research, in partnership with La Trobe University. This exciting collaboration will embed leading research and innovation developments into the athlete environment, producing benefits as they happen.

A proud moment for the VIS, and for Victoria, came with the launch of the VIS Yarning Circle at Albert Park, developed in partnership with the Bunurong Land Council. This permanent space for First Nations recognition, connection and storytelling within the Olympic and Paralympic precinct is a wonderful addition to the VIS's home, and I congratulate the organisation for bringing it to life.

The VIS continued to inspire communities right across the state, reaching more than 28,000 participants through programs including Be Fit. Be Well (BFBW), VIS Tours, the Athlete Speaker Program and the VIS Advancement Series, a fantastic reminder that the impact of our high performance system reaches well beyond the podium.

To ensure these amazing achievements continue, and more Victorians have the chance to shine on the world stage, the Victorian Government is continuing to provide $58.2 million to support the VIS over four years (2024-28).

I would also like to thank outgoing Director Tina De Young for her outstanding contributions and leadership as Chair of the Finance Committee, which was instrumental in shaping the organisation's direction over nine years of dedicated service. I look forward to working with the VIS's newest Directors, Sarah Styles, Andrea Pearman, Kyle Vander-Kuyp OLY and Ashleigh McConnell OAM PLY, as they bring their expertise and fresh perspectives to the Board.

We are supporting Victoria's athletes to reach their full potential both in sport and life. Thank you to all VIS athletes and staff for your dedication to success and continued commitment to improvement. I look forward to the next 12 months as you continue to achieve, excel and inspire Victorians.



IMAGE (L-R): ALANA FORSTER, PARA CYCLING; STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP, MINISTER FOR SPORT; SAM WILLIAMSON, SWIMMING; ANABELLE SMITH OLY, DIVING, AT THE VIS 2025 FRIENDS OF PARLIAMENT EVENT

VIS 2025/2026

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS	PROFILE	SINCE
 **Dr Lauren Burns OAM** Chair	A trailblazer in Australian sport, Lauren was appointed VIS Chair in 2025. Lauren made history at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, winning the inaugural Olympic gold medal in taekwondo and inspiring a generation of athletes. Holding a PhD in Athlete Lifestyle and Mindset, Lauren blends her Olympic journey with deep expertise in naturopathy, nutrition and performance psychology. Her work, in her role of Wellbeing and Engagement Manager at CombatAUS, reflects a lifelong commitment to understanding what helps athletes thrive, both in competition and beyond.	2025
 **Tina De Young** (until Sept 2025)	Tina joined the VIS Board in 2016, serving nine years as a Director until September 2025 and was Chair of the VIS Finance Committee. Tina brought considerable corporate advisory experience within a range of sectors including health, resources, infrastructure & agriculture. Her previous role was Associate Director at Grant Samuel, and she is currently a Director at the Richmond Football Club, and a Consultant to the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.	2016
 **Shelley Ware** (until Sept 2025)	Shelley is a proud Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu woman from Adelaide, South Australia, an Australian Aboriginal media and TV personality, corporate speaker and educator. Shelley has 25 years' experience as a teacher and is an Educational Consultant highlighting First Nation People's history and culture. She is passionate about espousing her personal journey, perspectives on women in sports, Aboriginal issues and childhood education. Shelley served six years on the VIS Board and was a member of the Finance Committee.	2019
 **Greg Lee**	Greg was appointed to the VIS Board in 2020, bringing extensive senior leadership and governance experience. His career spans a wide range of sectors, including tertiary education, professional recruitment and labour hire, advertising and marketing, elite sport, disadvantaged youth programs, and disruptive technology. A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Greg also holds board positions with the Judicial College of Victoria and Headstart Capital, contributing his strategic and operational expertise across high-impact organisations.	2020
 **Julie Ryan**	Julie was appointed to the VIS Board in 2022 and is an experienced sports administrator and long-standing advocate for inclusion in sport. With a Bachelor of Applied Science (Coaching and Sport Administration) and a Diploma in Business (Governance), she has contributed to soccer in Australia across multiple roles, including administrator, club board member, referee, coach, coach educator, and member of Football Victoria's Standing Committee. Julie has held a number of board positions, including serving as President of Proud 2 Play, a leading LGBTQIA+ organisation focused on creating safer, more inclusive sporting environments across Victoria, and as a general board member of Women Onside, supporting the advancement of women's leadership and participation in sport.	2022
 **Azmeena Hussain OAM**	Azmeena was appointed to the VIS Board in 2022. She is a Principal Lawyer at Maurice Blackburn Lawyers and a leading advocate for diversity, inclusion and social impact. With extensive experience in workplace law, she also serves as Chair of the Islamic Museum of Australia and is an outgoing Non-Executive Director at Football Victoria. Azmeena is also the Deputy Chair of the SBS Statutory Community Advisory Committee. Azmeena was a Football Australia FIFA Women's World Cup Ambassador, reflecting her strong commitment to harnessing the power of sport to drive meaningful social change. Azmeena's broad experience across law, community leadership and sport governance brings a valuable and multidimensional perspective to the VIS Board.	2022
 **Mark Coughlin**	Mark joined the VIS Board in 2025 after serving as an independent member of the VIS Finance Committee for a decade. He is the Managing Director and Founder of Coughlin Advisory, a growing energy transition advisory firm that provides strategy, commercial, regulatory and infrastructure advisory services to a range of clients. Mark brings extensive governance, financial oversight and strategic planning capability to the VIS Board and is also the Chair of the VIS Finance Committee.	2025

DIRECTORS	PROFILE	SINCE
 **Sarah Styles**	Sarah was appointed to the VIS Board in 2025 and is a leading figure in Australian sports administration, with particular expertise in gender equity. She previously served as Director of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation, leading the Change Our Game initiative to expand leadership, visibility and participation opportunities for women and girls in sport. Sarah was also the inaugural Head of Female Engagement at Cricket Australia, and as a former investment banker with a Master of Finance, combines financial oversight with strategic and social policy skills.	2025
 **Andrea Pearman**	Andrea was appointed to the VIS Board in 2025 and brings extensive corporate and sport governance leadership, with a strong focus on equity and inclusion. She has been CEO of Netball Victoria since 2023 and previously held senior brand, stakeholder and Corporate Social Responsibility leadership roles at Australia Post, NAB, Fosters and Telstra. Andrea is also co-founder of Inclusive Australia, an organisation working to address discrimination.	2025
 **Kyle Vander-Kuyp OLY**	Kyle was appointed to the VIS Board in 2026 and is one of Australia's most respected Indigenous sporting leaders, drawing on a distinguished athletics career and ongoing contribution to sport governance. A proud Worimi and Yuin man, he competed at two Olympic Games as a hurdler, reaching the finals in Atlanta 1996 and remains the Australian 110m hurdles record holder. He served as Deputy Chef de Mission for the Australian Olympic Team at Paris 2024. Kyle has held a number of governance and advisory roles, including on the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) Board, the Australian Olympic Committee's (AOC) Indigenous Advisory Committee since 2019, and, most recently, Sport Integrity Australia's Culture and Safety Advisory Committee.	2026
 **Ashleigh McConnell OAM PLY**	Ashleigh was appointed to the VIS Board in 2026 and was a Paralympic swimmer and long-standing VIS scholarship holder. Throughout her swimming career, Ashleigh represented Australia at the highest level, including winning gold in the women's 34-point 4x100m freestyle relay at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Since retiring from competitive swimming, Ashleigh has transitioned into her professional career at KPMG, where she has developed experience as an Assistant Manager in Audit and Assurance. Ashleigh has also served as a member of the inaugural Athletes' Commission for Swimming Australia. Ashleigh holds a Bachelor of Business in Economics and Finance, graduating with distinction.	2026
 **Veronica Clark** Board Observership Program (until Dec 2025)	Veronica is an effective, outcomes-focused in-house lawyer and business operator, with experience in professional services, health and energy sectors. She is currently the Legal Manager - Product & Innovation at EnergyAustralia and an Associate Director Legal at Novotech. She has broad experience advising on corporate, commercial and dispute matters. In 2024, Veronica was appointed as a VIS Board Observer, through the Observership Program and she was extended as an Observer until December 2025.	2024
COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
 **Tim Matthews OAM** (Independent Member - Performance Committee)	Tim Matthews is a past VIS scholarship holder and an Australian athlete who competed at three Paralympic Games between 1996 and 2004. He won three Paralympic gold medals in the 4x100m T42-46 and 4x400m T46 relays, and two bronze medals in the Men's 100m and 200m T46 athletics events. He received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his achievements following the 1996 Atlanta Paralympics. He currently holds the role of Senior Performance & Talent Adviser at Paralympics Australia (PA) and sits on the VIS Performance Committee as an independent member.	2020
 **Dr Machar Reid** (Independent Member - Performance Committee)	Dr Machar Reid is currently the Director of Innovation at Tennis Australia and previously served as the Innovation Catalyst, the High Performance Manager and the Sport Science & Medicine Manager at Tennis Australia. His interests lie in sports technology, science, health, media and innovation that challenges the status quo. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at Victoria University, an Associate Professor at the University of Western Australia and a General Partner at Wildcard Ventures. He has sat as an independent member on the VIS Performance Committee since 2023.	2023

VIS 2025/2026

CHAIR & CEO REPORT



Dr Lauren Burns OAM
Chair



Nicole Livingstone AO
Chief Executive Officer

The 25/26 year has been one of continued momentum, performance excellence, and organisational evolution for the VIS. As we progress deeper into the LA 2028 cycle and toward the Brisbane 2032 home Games, the VIS has focused on embedding its Strategic Plan 2025-2032+, strengthening system impact, and delivering world-class outcomes for Victorian athletes and coaches.

Across the reporting period, VIS athletes continued to deliver on the world stage. A total of 451 athletes across 46 sports were supported, maintaining a strong gender balance with 56% female representation. Athletes achieved 37 podium-level results at major international events, including 14 gold medals won by seven VIS athletes and podium finishes by 26 athletes overall. A further 43 top eight performances highlighted the depth and consistency across VIS programs.

A standout moment of the year was the Milano Cortina Winter Olympic Games in February 2026, where Scotty James (snowboard) and Danielle Scott (aerial skiing) both secured silver medals. These results led a strong Victorian contribution to the Australian Winter Olympic Team and set a positive tone for the Olympic and Paralympic cycle ahead.

VIS athletes also made history across other disciplines, including Dean Hewitt and Tahli Gill (QAS) securing Australia's first-ever World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship title, while sport climbers Sarah Larcombe and Oceana Mackenzie delivered breakthrough medal performances for Australia. Our Para athletes continued to excel on the global stage, securing multiple world titles across Para cycling, led by athletes such as Alana Forster, Tahlia Clayton-Goodie and Erin Rowell (Normoyle).

The VIS proudly celebrated the achievements of athletes and staff at the 2025 VIS Award of Excellence (AOE). The evening's highest honour, the VIS AOE, was awarded to Australia's most decorated snowboarder, Scotty James, who became just the second athlete in VIS history to claim the award three times, equalling the record of Australian sporting legend Catherine Freeman AC. Another highlight from the night was Paralympic champion Tim Matthews OAM, who was honoured with the Frank Pyke Achievement Award in recognition of his sporting achievements, contribution to the VIS and continued success beyond competition.

The VIS Para Sport Unit (PSU), launched in March 2025, has continued to build significant momentum. The program now supports 72 athletes across identification and development streams, continuing to unearth and progress new Paralympic talent. A standout success story is 15-year-old Thomas McGough, whose progression from identification through to selection for the Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games highlights the impact of this targeted investment in Para sport. The dedicated Para Unit continues to play a leadership role nationally in talent identification, applied performance support, and integration with tiered Para programs.

The VIS continues to deliver world-class multidisciplinary performance support to athletes and national teams. Throughout the year, VIS coaches and performance staff were embedded across major events and national programs, strengthening Victoria's contribution to Australian teams. Empowering athletes to succeed both in sport and in life remains central to the VIS mission with 92% of scholarship holders engaged in education, employment, or both, supported by the Performance Lifestyle (PL) team. In February, the VIS, in partnership with La Trobe University, announced Dr Ebonie Rio as Professor of Research embedded within the organisation. The joint role will provide world-leading injury prevention and performance science directly into the Daily Performance Environment (DPE). VIS athletes will benefit from the very best global research in real time.

The VIS significantly expanded its community engagement footprint across Victoria, through programs such as BFBW, VIS Tours, Athlete Speaker Programs and the VIS Advancement Series reaching over 300 schools and over 28,000 participants.

IMAGE (L-R): VIS BOARD MEMBERS - MARK COUGHLIN, SARAH STYLES, JULIE RYAN, ANDREA PEARMAN, DR LAUREN BURNS OAM, AZMEENA HUSSAIN OAM, GREG LEE, KYLE VANDER-KUYP OLY





IMAGE (L-R): JAMIE MCPHERSON, CATHERINE FREEMAN AC AND NICOLE LIVINGSTONE AO AT THE 2026 VIS YARNING CIRCLE

Inclusion, culture and connection have remained a priority across the organisation. A major milestone was the development and launch of the VIS Yarning Circle on the Palm Lawn at Albert Park, attended by VIS athletes, staff and alumni, local Members of Parliament (MP), school children and the wider sporting community. This space represents a lasting commitment to First Nations recognition, connection and storytelling within the Olympic and Paralympic precinct and was developed in partnership with the Bunurong Land Council. Through our Connection to Country Officer, Jamie McPherson, the VIS continued to strengthen its cultural capability through cultural activities, engagement in National Reconciliation Week and continuous learning, embedding First Nations perspectives across programs and environments.

In November, the organisation held its first Friends of Parliament event with recent VIS Award winners, Olympic and Paralympic medallists sharing stories of their success with MPs. The organisation also celebrated Pride Month through athlete and leadership panels and delivered education programs focused on neurodiversity and neuro-affirming practices, promoting an inclusive and supportive environment.

The VIS Athlete Advisory (VAA) continued to play an important role in ensuring athlete voices inform decision-making and the future direction of the organisation. During the year, the Advisory refined priorities, set goals and provided meaningful input into the development of the VIS Strategic Plan 2025-2032+. Beyond formal meetings, Advisory members contributed to a range of key VIS initiatives, representing the athlete perspective.

This year marks the first full year of implementation of the VIS Strategic Plan 2025-2032+, which provides a clear roadmap toward LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032. The strategy is underpinned by four pillars: Performance Excellence; Athlete Focused - Coach Led; Collaborative Sporting Systems; and Sustainable Success. The VIS continued to modernise its systems and governance frameworks, including the introduction of new Privacy and Child Safeguarding policies and the development and rollout of VIS AI Principles, which included comprehensive staff training in these areas. Further organisational milestones included the submission and approval of the VIS Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) and completion of Australian Sports Commission Critical Incident training.

Strengthening its digital presence, the organisation developed a new website aimed at increasing visibility, engagement and connection with the Victorian community. We also launched the VIS Learning Hub (LH), a central platform housing educational resources, courses and development opportunities, drawing on the expertise of VIS staff to support learning and growth for our athletes.

The VIS Board has continued to play a critical role in guiding the organisation through a period of strategic transformation and growth. Throughout the year, the Board contributed to and helped shape the VIS Strategic Plan 2025-2032+, providing leadership and oversight as the organisation established its long-term vision toward LA 2028, Brisbane 2032 and beyond. During the year, we farewelled two highly valued Directors, Shelley Ware and Tina De Young, who concluded their terms in September. We extend our sincere thanks to both for their significant contributions to the VIS. Tina's leadership as Chair of the Finance Committee, together with her broader governance contribution, has been instrumental in shaping the organisation's direction over nine years of dedicated service. We also acknowledge and thank Veronica Clark for her contribution as Board Observer with her engagement providing valuable perspectives and support.

The Board reached full membership during the year with the appointment of Sarah Styles and Andrea Pearman in December, followed by Kyle Vander-Kuyp OLY and Ashleigh McConnell OAM PLY in March. We are delighted to welcome these accomplished individuals to the VIS Board and look forward to the insight, expertise and fresh perspectives they will bring as we continue delivering on our strategic priorities and supporting Victorian athletes to succeed in sport and life.

Appreciation is expressed to our National and State Sporting Organisations and Associations, together with the AOC, Commonwealth Games Australia, PA, Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and State and Territory Institute colleagues. We thank and acknowledge the Department of Education and Training, School Sport Victoria, the Carbine Club, 2XU, and Maribyrnong Sports Academy along with the Victorian Regional Academies of Sport (VRAS). Our thanks to all these organisations and their staff for their interest and commitment to our athletes and programs. To the Board and independent members of our committees, we express our gratitude for your continued guidance and contributions. Finally, we thank the Victorian Government and Minister for Sport, Steve Dimopoulos MP, who is an engaged and enthusiastic supporter of the VIS, along with the ongoing guidance from Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) in the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR).

The 25/26 year has reinforced the VIS's position as a contemporary, values-driven high performance institute. With strong athletic results, growing Para sport capability, deepened community engagement, and a clear strategic direction, the organisation is well placed to support Victorian athletes on the journey to LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032. Together, we continue to build a system that empowers athletes to succeed in sport and in life.

ABOUT VIS

WHO WE ARE

The VIS is funded by the Victorian Government and is responsible for enabling Victoria's best athletes to thrive and deliver their best results at benchmark events, such as Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games.

The VIS is unlike any other organisation in high performance sport in Victoria, focused on our mission to empower athletes to succeed in sport and life. The VIS also provides inspiration for Victorians to be fit and well in their own lives, using our athletes as their inspiration and motivation.

Our proven ability to develop some of Australia's most talented athletes is exemplified in our 35-year history of producing 37 Olympic champions, 42 Paralympic champions, 121 Commonwealth champions, 109 world champions and 58 Para world champions at the senior level.

The organisation is made up of over 115 employees who form an unrivalled network of expertise across coaching, physical preparation, sport science, medicine, psychology, nutrition and career and education, delivering support and solutions to over 450 athletes across more than 45 sports.

Based within a refurbished 146-year-old red-brick grandstand in Lakeside Stadium in Melbourne's Albert Park, the VIS is an internationally recognised Olympic and Paralympic training facility that houses state-of-the-art equipment and innovative, world-leading technology for Victoria's best athletes to thrive on the world stage.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Tier 1 Scholarship Program

Athletes with scholarships compete in sports which have a Tier 1 sports program with the VIS. AIS sport categorisation guides the VIS Tier 1 sports selection, based on the identified role of the VIS within the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) plan. Tier 1 sports during the 2025-26 period include: aerial skiing, athletics, combat, cycling, diving, hockey, netball, shooting, swimming, triathlon and wheelchair basketball. Tier 1 sports programs have tri-partisan agreements with the National and State sporting organisations and are coordinated by a Head Coach or Program Manager.

Individual Scholarship Program

Individual scholarships are offered annually to athletes from sports who compete in the Olympic, Paralympic, and Commonwealth Games. The National Athlete Categorisation Framework (NACF) identifies athletes who are eligible for Individual VIS Scholarships covering Emerging through to Podium categorisations.

Future Talent Scholarship Program

Future Talent scholarships are for talented athletes who show outstanding potential for future success but are not yet eligible for a full VIS scholarship due to their age or selection criteria restrictions; once identified, they are provided with VIS support services to 'fast track' their development. The Future Talent scholarship program is supported by the Carbine Club.

The VIS acknowledges the Australian Olympic and Paralympic Committees for their endorsement of the VIS as an Olympic and Paralympic Training Centre.

VIS STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2032+

MISSION

Empower athletes to succeed in sport and life.

VISION

VIS athletes are thriving and succeeding on the big stage and inspiring Victorians.

VALUES

Champion the pursuit of excellence with purpose, integrity, ambition and collaboration.

Our strategy is built on four pillars: Performance Excellence; Athlete Focused - Coach Led; Collaborative Sporting Systems and Sustainable Success, each guiding our priorities across Horizon One (2025-2028), as we build toward LA 2028, French Alps 2030 and a home Games at Brisbane 2032.

PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

Relentlessly striving for world-class performance with continuous improvement and performing when it matters.

ATHLETE FOCUSED - COACH LED

Athletes are at the heart of every decision, empowered by world-class coaches and performance experts who drive their development and support their wellbeing.

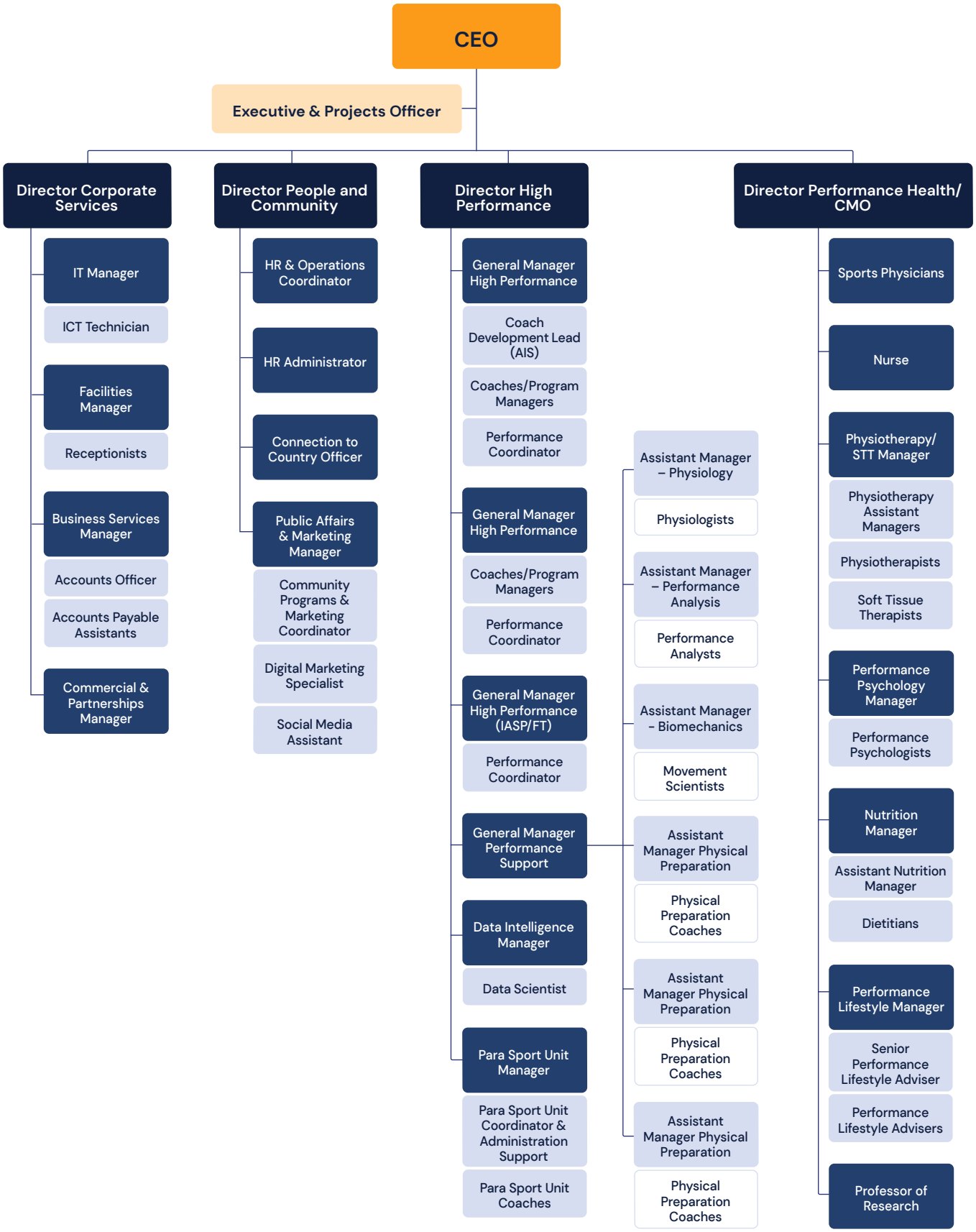
COLLABORATIVE SPORTING SYSTEMS

A unified sporting system built on trust, alignment, and shared accountability.

SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

Strategic advancement and financial resilience enabling athletes to thrive in DPEs.

ORGANISATION CHART



ABOUT VIS

OUR CONNECTION TO COUNTRY

The past year has been one of significant growth and impact for the VIS Connection to Country program, with a strong focus on creating culturally safe spaces, strengthening relationships, and embedding First Nations perspectives throughout the organisation.

National Reconciliation Week Yarning Circle

We proudly delivered our second National Reconciliation Week Yarning Circle, bringing together athletes, staff, and community members to learn, reflect, and connect. A highlight of the event was the participation of VIS alumna and Australian sporting icon and proud Kuku Yalanji and Birri Gubba woman Catherine Freeman AC OLY, whose presence and insights provided inspiration and reinforced the importance of creating spaces for meaningful conversations around reconciliation.

VIS Permanent Yarning Circle

A landmark achievement this year was the creation of the first permanent Yarning Circle connected to a high performance institute in Australia. Officially opened by Olympic champion Freeman and Kyle Vander-Kuyp OLY, Olympian and VIS board member, the Yarning Circle provides athletes and staff with a dedicated space to connect, reflect, share stories, and find respite from the often clinical and high performance environment of elite sport.

The concept was informed by athlete experiences at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, where the importance of culturally safe and connection-focused spaces was strongly identified. The Yarning Circle now stands as a lasting symbol of our commitment to Connection to Country, wellbeing, and community.

First Nations Working Group

Our First Nations Working Group continued to meet regularly throughout the year and played a vital role in shaping and supporting the delivery of key initiatives.

"Map Your Journey" Initiative

This year saw the development and implementation of the Map Your Journey activity, a storytelling and connection-building exercise designed to encourage participants to reflect on their personal journeys, values, experiences, and aspirations. We successfully delivered the program to a number of sports including Table Tennis Australia, Netball Victoria and with VIS lacrosse athletes.

Looking Ahead

The foundations established this year have positioned us to continue strengthening our commitment to Connection to Country and cultural inclusion. Through ongoing athlete support, community engagement, education initiatives, and the activation of the Yarning Circle, we look forward to building on this momentum and creating even greater opportunities for connection, learning, and belonging across the VIS community.

Athletes Supported by the VIS

Dallas Loughridge / Basketball
Thomas McGough / Para athletics
Tyson Mutsch / Water Polo
Kirra Wright / Para athletics

Athletes Who Completed Their Scholarships

Kylie Lavis / Lawn Bowls
Marissa Williamson Pohlman / Boxing









ABOUT VIS

ATHLETE ADVISORY

The VAA continues to play an important role in ensuring athlete voices help shape the future of the institute and the high performance sport environment.

During the year, the VAA farewelled dual Paralympian Alexandra Viney (Para rowing) and sincerely thanked her for her significant contribution to the group. The VAA also welcomed Paralympian Dr Hannah Macdougall PLY following her retirement from competition. Macdougall brings a wealth of experience and a strong passion for athlete wellbeing, and the group looks forward to benefiting from her insights and perspective.

Recognising the value of regular athlete engagement, the VAA increased its meeting schedule from two to three meetings per year. The group recently used this time to reflect on its purpose, refocus its priorities and establish clear goals to guide its work over the next 12 months. In 2025, members also provided valuable input into the development of the VIS Strategic Plan, which is central to the organisation's future direction.

Beyond its regular meetings, the VAA continued to contribute to a number of important VIS initiatives. Members were involved in the development, planting and opening of the VIS Yarning Circle, helping to create a meaningful space for connection, reflection and cultural learning. The group also actively participated in National Reconciliation Week activities, contributed to Research Council discussions, and represented the VIS at the Friends of Parliament event.

Through these contributions, the VAA continues to embed the athlete perspective within the VIS and support a high performance environment where athletes are heard, valued and empowered.

VIS ATHLETE ADVISORY MEMBERS



Anabelle Smith OLY - Chair
Diving



Rhydian Cowley OLY
Athletics, Race walking



Danni Di Toro PLY
Para table tennis



Johan Durst
Hockey



Dean Hewitt OLY
Curling



Dr Hannah Macdougall PLY
(from May 2026)
Para triathlon



Caitlin Parker OLY
Boxing



Ben Ross
Canoe



Alexandra Viney PLY
(until January 2026)
Para rowing

2025/2026

ATHLETE RESULTS SUMMARY

PODIUM LEVEL RESULTS AT MAJOR EVENTS

Athlete	Sport	Event/Discipline	Competition
1ST			
Lucas Plapp	Cycling	Road Team Time Trial - Mixed	2025 UCI Road World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Road Time Trial - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Road Race - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships
Alana Forster	Para cycling	C5 - Road Time Trial - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships
Alana Forster	Para cycling	C5 - Road Race - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships
Emily Petricola OAM	Para cycling	C3 - Road Time Trial - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Sprint - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Time Trial - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Scratch Race - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie	Para cycling	C1 - Elimination Race - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Jessica Gallagher	Para cycling	Tandem B - Team Sprint - Open	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Erin Rowell	Para cycling	C4 - Sprint - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Erin Rowell	Para cycling	Team Sprint - Mixed	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Dean Hewitt	Curling	Curling Doubles - Mixed	2026 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship
2ND			
Blake Agnoletto	Cycling	Team Pursuit (4km) - Men	2025 UCI Track World Championships
Joshua Jolly	Cycling	BMX Racing U23 - Men	2025 UCI BMX Racing World Championships
Jessica Gallagher	Para cycling	Tandem B - Sprint - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Sarah Larcombe	Para sport climbing	Lead - Women AL2	2025 IFSC Para Climbing World Championships Seoul
Ahmed Kelly	Para swimming	150m Individual Medley SM3 - Men	2025 World Para Swimming Championships
Jeremy Peacock	Para triathlon	Team Relay - Mixed	2025 World Triathlon Para Championships
Maggie Sandles	Para triathlon	Team Relay - Mixed	2025 World Triathlon Para Championships
Danielle Scott	Aerial Skiing	Aerials - Women	2026 Winter Olympic Games
Scott James	Snowboard	Snowboard Halfpipe - Men's	2026 Winter Olympic Games
3RD			
Annabelle Colman	Para athletics	1500m T20 - Women	2025 World Para Athletics Championships
Dayna Crees	Para athletics	Javelin Throw F34 - Women	2025 World Para Athletics Championships
Jai Crawley	Archery	Individual Recurve - Men	2025 World Archery Youth Championships
Jai Crawley	Archery	Compound Team (Mixed) - Mixed	2025 World Archery Youth Championships
Alessia McCaig	Cycling	Team Sprint - Women	2025 UCI Track World Championships
Jessica Gallagher	Para cycling	Tandem B - 1000m Time Trial - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Erin Rowell	Para cycling	C4 - Elimination Race - Women	2025 UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships
Romy Cantwell	Rowing	Single Sculls - Women	2025 World Rowing U23 Championships
Col Pearse	Para swimming	100m Butterfly S10 - Men	2025 World Para Swimming Championships
Gabriella Blewitt	Taekwondo	Women - 62kg	2025 World Taekwondo Championships
Hannah Macdougall	Para triathlon	PTS4 - Women	2025 World Triathlon Para Championships
Rebecca Henderson	Athletics	Half Marathon Race Walk - Women	2026 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships
Thomas Reynolds	Athletics	4 x 400m Relay - Men	2026 World Athletics Relay Championships
Adam Spencer	Athletics	1500m - Men	2026 World Athletics Indoor Championships

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VIS ATHLETES WON 14 GOLD MEDALS

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PODIUM LEVEL RESULTS ACHIEVED BY VIS ATHLETES

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VIS ATHLETES FINISHED IN PODIUM POSITIONS

36
EVENTS/DISCIPLINES WHERE VIS ATHLETES FINISHED IN PODIUM POSITIONS



IMAGE: DEAN HEWITT, CURLING
CREDIT: JAMES ROBERTS / WORLD CURLING

2025/2026

MILANO CORTINA

7

VIS ATHLETES

3 MEN | 4 WOMEN

VIS ATHLETES MADE UP

13%

OF THE 53-STRONG AUSTRALIAN WINTER OLYMPIC TEAM

VIS ATHLETES WON

SILVER SILVER

1/3

OF TOTAL AUS MEDAL COUNT

SPORTS REPRESENTED BY VIS ATHLETES

- SNOWBOARD HALFPIPE
- SHORT-TRACK SPEED SKATING
- FREESTYLE AERIAL SKIING

All Australian Freestyle Aerial Skiers are VIS Scholarship Athletes.

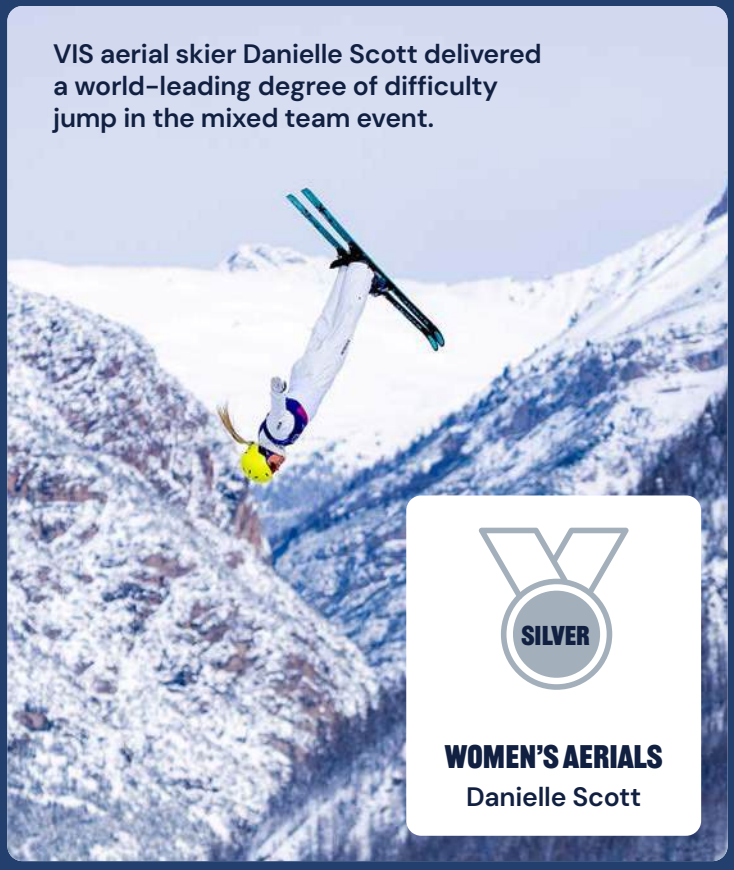


IMAGE: DANIELLE SCOTT AND ALISA CAMPLIN-WARNER AM



IMAGE (L-R): COOPER WOODS (NSWIS) AND DANIELLE SCOTT, CLOSING CEREMONY FLAGBEARERS

VIS aerial skier Danielle Scott delivered a world-leading degree of difficulty jump in the mixed team event.



SILVER

WOMEN'S AERIALS
Danielle Scott



SILVER

MEN'S SNOWBOARD HALFPIPE
Scotty James



IMAGE (L-R): DANIELLE SCOTT, ABBEY WILLCOX AND REILLY FLANAGAN



IMAGE: BRENDAN COREY



IMAGE: SCOTTY JAMES

ALL IMAGES CREDIT: GETTY

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

AERIAL SKIING

The aerial skiing program, delivered in partnership with the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWIA) and Snow Australia, focuses on the identification, recruitment and development of athletes with strong acrobatic backgrounds into high performance aerial skiers capable of competing at World Cup and Olympic level. Athletes undertake year-round domestic and international training programs to support ongoing technical and competitive development. Training activities include on-snow camps at Mt Buller, water ramp training at the Geoff Henke Olympic Winter Training Centre in Brisbane, and sessions at the Wandin Water Ramp Training Facility. This year, five VIS athletes competed in the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in Milano Cortina in Italy.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2026 World Cup Lake Placid - Mt Van Hoevenberg, USA

- Danielle Scott - 1st Women's Aerials

2026 World Cup Lac Beauport - Quebec City, Canada

- Laura Peel - 1st Women's Aerials

2026 Ruka Europa Cup - Ruka, Finland

- Sara Butko - 1st Women's Aerials
- Miriana Perkins - 3rd Women's Aerials

2026 Winter Olympics - Milano Cortina, Italy

- Danielle Scott - 2nd Women's Aerials

Australian Team Representation:

- Reilly Flanagan
- Airleigh Frigo
- Sidney Stephens
- Abbey Willcox

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Hannah Kennedy
Sport Performance Manager - OWIA/VIS

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)

COACHES

Dmitri Daschinski
Aerial Skiing Head Coach - OWIA

Danny Geiger
Aerial Skiing Program Ski Lead - OWIA

Renee McElduff
Aerial Skiing Technical Jump Coach & Camp Coordinator - OWIA

Regan Molyneaux
Aerial Skiing Talent Transfer Coordinator - OWIA

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Grace Claringbold
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Cate Gifford
Physical Preparation Coach

Tamara Lidums
Physiotherapist

Kate Macdermid
Physiotherapist

Barbara Meyer
Sport Psychology Consultant - OWIA

Will Morgan
Physical Preparation Manager

Dr Anik Shawdon
Sports Physician

Rachel Stentiford
Sports Dietitian

ATHLETES

Sara Butko
Elise Coleiro
Jessica Erni
Reilly Flanagan
Sian Francis
Airleigh Frigo
Jasmine Muscroft
Miriana Perkins
Laura Peel
Chloe Sailaris
Danielle Scott
Sidney Stephens
Liberty Stewart
Sophie Treloar
Abbey Willcox

TRAINING VENUES

VIS Gymnasium

Mt Buller

Water Ramp Training Facility, Wandin

Geoff Henke Olympic Winter Training Centre, Brisbane, Queensland

SPONSORS

Karbon

Mt Buller

XTM

PARTNERS

Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWIA)

Snow Australia

> When I was walking to finals at the Winter Olympics in Italy, a couple of organisers got talking to Kate (physio) and I. The organiser wished us luck and said "In bocca al lupo" which translates literally to 'into the wolf's mouth'. To which we learned, you say "crepi" in response and that means 'may the wolf die'. This stuck with me all day and it was such a cool small gesture that I believed helped give me the confidence I needed out there!"
> **- Danielle Scott**



IMAGE: DANIELLE SCOTT
CREDIT: GETTY

AERIAL SKIING



ATHLETICS



"The number of athletes selected to represent Australia at various World Championships throughout the year is an outstanding achievement for the program. This success reflects the dedication and expertise of the support team, whose tireless efforts in providing high-quality support to both athletes and coaches have played a vital role in these achievements."
– Nicky Frey (VIS/AA State Performance Adviser – Athletics)

IMAGE: YUAL REATH
CREDIT: GETTY

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

ATHLETICS

In partnership with Athletics Australia (AA) and Athletics Victoria, our program is dedicated to empowering Victorian-based athletes to become the world's best and to succeed on the international stage at major events including the Olympics, Paralympics and Commonwealth Games, World Athletics and Para Athletics World Championships.

The Athletics State Performance Adviser and Athletics Program Coordinator work collaboratively with the coaches and athletes to provide access to top-tier training facilities and performance support team members with an aim to provide a world-class DPE for the athletes in their pursuit of international success.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 World Athletics Championships – Tokyo, Japan

Australian Team Representation:
- Roman Anastasios
- Sarah Billings
- Peter Bol
- Abbey Caldwell
- Rhydian Cowley
- Georgia Griffith
- Rebecca Henderson
- Claudia Hollingsworth
- Chris Mitrevski
- Lauren Ryan
- Thomas Reynolds
- Stephanie Ratcliffe
- Yual Reath
- Cooper Sherman
- Adam Spencer
- Will Thompson
- Declan Tingay

2025 World Para Athletics Championships – New Delhi, India

- Annabelle Colman – 3rd Women's T20 1500m
- Dayna Crees – 3rd Women's F34 Javelin
- Ella Hose – 4th Women's F37 Shot Put, 7th Women's F38 Discus Throw
- Reece Langdon – 4th Men's T38 1500m
- Michal Burian – 6th Men's F44/F64 Javelin
- Michael Mayne – 6th Men's T38 Long Jump
- Daniel Milone – 7th Men's T20 800m

2025 Australian Athletics Marathon Race Walking Championships – Canberra, Australia

- Rhydian Cowley – 1st Men's Marathon Race Walk

2026 Australian Half Marathon Race Walking Championships – Adelaide, Australia

- Rebecca Henderson – 1st Women's Half Marathon Walk
- Declan Tingay – 1st Men's Half Marathon Walk

2026 World Athletics Indoor Championships – Torun, Poland

- Adam Spencer – 3rd Men's 1500m

Australian Team Representation:
- Bob Abdelrahim
- Linden Hall

2026 Australian Athletics Championships – Sydney, Australia

- Roman Anastasios – 1st Men's High Jump
- Brooke Buschkuehl – 1st Women's Long Jump
- Abbey Caldwell – 1st Women's 800m
- Annabelle Colman – 1st Women's Para 1500m
- Aiden Hinson – 1st Men's Triple Jump
- Claudia Hollingsworth – 1st Women's 1500m
- Michael Mayne – 1st Men's Para Long Jump
- Stephanie Ratcliffe – 1st Women's Hammer Throw
- Mia Scerri – 1st Women's Heptathlon

2026 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships – Brasilia, Brazil

- Rebecca Henderson – 3rd Women's Team Half Marathon Walk, 5th Women's Half Marathon Walk
- Rhydian Cowley – 4th Men's Team Half Marathon Walk
- Will Thompson – 4th Men's Team Half Marathon Walk
- Declan Tingay – 4th Men's Team Half Marathon Walk

2026 World Athletics Relay Championships – Gaborone, Botswana

- Thomas Reynolds – 3rd Men's 4 x 400m Relay, 7th Mixed 4 x 400m Relay
- Mia Gross – 7th Mixed 4 x 400m Relay
- Cooper Sherman – 7th Mixed 4 x 400m Relay

2026 Oceania Athletics Championships – Darwin, Australia

- Brooke Buschkuehl – 1st Women's Long Jump
- Mia Gross – 1st Women's 200m
- Aiden Hinson – 1st Men's Triple Jump
- Yual Reath – 1st Men's High Jump

Australian Team Representation:
- Roman Anastasios
- Tiana Boras
- Stephanie Ratcliffe
- Thomas Reynolds

2026 Diamond League Series

- Abbey Caldwell – 1st Women's 1500m (Xiamen – China), 3rd Women's 1500m (Shanghai – China)

Australian Records:

- Peter Bol – 1:42.55 in the 800m at the Monaco Diamond League Meet (11.7.25)
- Dayna Crees – 18.97m in the F34 Javelin at the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships (29.9.25)
- Reece Langdon – 1:52.07 in the Men's T38 800m at the Box Hill Classic (5.3.26)
- Thomas Reynolds – 2:55.20 in the Men's 4 x 400m Relay at the 2026 World Athletics Relay Championships (3.5.26)
- Mia Gross, Thomas Reynolds, Cooper Sherman – 3:10.57 in the Mixed 4 x 400m Relay at the 2026 World Athletics Relay Championships (3.5.26)
- Sarah Billings – 1:57.01 in the Women's 800m at the Paris Diamond League Meet (28.6.26)

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Nicky Frey
VIS/AA State Performance Adviser – Athletics

Jennifer Fegan
Athletics Program Coordinator (from October 2025)

Ben King
Athletics Program Coordinator (until August 2025)

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lachlan Avery
Physiotherapist

Dr Aaron Balloch
Performance Support Assistant Manager – Biomechanics

Laura Cosgrove
Performance Psychologist

Kevin Craigie
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Cory Innes
Performance Support Assistant Manager – Physical Preparation

Tamara Lidums
Physiotherapist

Stephanie Mundy
Physical Preparation Coach

William Pyle
Performance Lifestyle Adviser (from September 2025)

Jessica Rothwell
Sports Dietitian

Hannah Schmidt
Performance Scientist – Biomechanics (from July 2025)

Dr Avish Sharma
Performance Scientist – Physiology

Dr Patrick Sunderland
Sports Physician

Dr Tom Topham
Performance Scientist – Physiology

Joel Wood
Physical Preparation Coach (from August 2025)

ATHLETES

Bob Abdelrahim
Roman Anastasios
Sarah Billings
Peter Bol
Tiana Boras
Michal Burian
Brooke Buschkuehl
Abbey Caldwell
Alexander Colgan
Annabelle Colman
Rhydian Cowley
Dayna Crees
Georgia Griffith
Mia Gross
Linden Hall
Rebecca Henderson
Aiden Hinson
Claudia Hollingsworth
Ella Hose
Elyssia Kenshole
Reece Langdon
Jack Lunn
Michael Mayne
Sam McIntosh
Mackenzie Mielczarek
Jessica Milat
Daniel Milone
Chris Mitrevski
Jemima Montag
Bendere Oboya
Ellie Pashley
Bella Pasquali
Stephanie Ratcliffe
Yual Reath
Thomas Reynolds
Lauren Ryan
Mia Scerri
Mikaela Selaidinakos
Cooper Sherman
Adam Spencer
Carley Thomas
Jude Thomas
Will Thompson
Declan Tingay
Tayleb Willis
Kirra Wright

Representative Stream Athletes:

Joel Baden
Catriona Bisset
Andrew Buchanan
Ben Buckingham
Amy Cashin
Seth O'Donnell
Jack Rayner
Brett Robinson
Haftu Strintzos
Ed Trippas
Lisa Weightman

TRAINING VENUES

Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Athletics Australia

Athletics Victoria

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

COMBAT SPORTS

In collaboration with CombatAUS, the VIS supports the National Performance Centre, a centralised full-time training environment for taekwondo and judo. Based adjacent to the VIS, the program combines high-quality technical training with leading performance support services to help Australia's top athletes realise their full potential. The centre fosters a high performance culture that develops world-class athletes capable of winning medals at major international competitions.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

JUDO

2026 Ulaanbaatar Grand Prix – Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

- Aoife Coughlan – 2nd Women –70kg

2026 Judo Oceania Senior Championships – Melbourne, Australia

- Aoife Coughlan – 1st Women –78kg
- Maeve Coughlan – 1st Women –63kg
- Tinka Easton – 1st Women –52kg
- Timeo Tournier – 1st Men –66kg
- Danny Vojnikovich – 1st Men –90kg

2026 Judo National Championships – Gold Coast, Australia

- Maeve Coughlan – 1st Women –63kg
- Aoife Coughlan – 1st Women –70kg
- Maria Swan – 1st Women –78kg
- Tinka Easton – 2nd Women –57kg
- Danny Vojnikovich – 3rd Men –90kg

TAEKWONDO

2025 World Taekwondo Championships – Wuxi, China

- Gabriella Blewitt – 3rd Women –62kg

Australian Team Representation:

- Stacey Hymer
- Xavier Nikolovski
- Reba Stewart
- Aiden Stilley
- Matthew Summerfield
- Liam Sweeney
- Saffron Tambyrajah

2026 Taekwondo Oceania Championships – Sydney, Australia

- Gabriella Blewitt – 1st Women –62kg
- Rebecca Murray – 1st Women –73kg
- Xavier Nikolovski – 1st Men –68kg
- Reba Stewart – 1st Women +73kg
- Aiden Stilley – 1st Men +87kg
- Matthew Summerfield – 1st Men –63kg

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Andrew Nolen
Performance Director – CombatAUS

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)

COACHES

Ryan Carneli
National Taekwondo Program Coach – CombatAUS

Emilien Freund
National Judo Program Coach – CombatAUS

Daniel Kelly
National Judo Head Coach – CombatAUS

Seokhun Lee
National Taekwondo Technical Lead – CombatAUS

Maria Pekli
National Judo Technical Lead – CombatAUS

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Bryce Anderson
Sports Dietitian (from June 2026)

Amber Bennett
Sports Physiotherapist (until August 2025)

Siobhan Crawshay
Sports Dietitian (until May 2026)

Joshua Ferguson
Sports Physiotherapist (from July 2025)

Jacqueline Gurr
Sports Physiotherapist (until August 2025)

Emma Hall
Performance Psychologist (until April 2026)

Fiona Jacobs
Sports Physiotherapist (from August 2025)

Shenae Keleher
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Yosup Kim
Physical Preparation Coach

Sarina Lococo
Sports Dietitian

Dr Alice McNamara
Sports Physician

Dr James Ooi
Sports Physician

Katie Sandford
Sports Physiotherapist Coach (from August 2025)

Luke Stevens
Physical Preparation (from March 2026)

Bree Van Ryswyk
Performance Psychologist

Dr Susan White AM
Chief Medical Officer / Director Performance Health

ATHLETES

Carstens Beyers
Gabriella Blewitt
Aoife Coughlan
Maeve Coughlan
Tinka Easton
Anneliese Fielder
Stacey Hymer
Alannah Joyce
Bianca Motta
Damon Motta
Rebecca Murray
Xavier Nikolovski
Abigail Paduch
Ryley Rametta
Leon Sejranovic
Reba Stewart
Aiden Stilley
Matthew Summerfield
Maria Swan
Liam Sweeney
Saffron Tambyrajah
Timeo Tournier
Danny Vojnikovich
Ryan Yoo

TRAINING VENUES

CombatAUS National Performance Centre (NPC)

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

CombatAUS



IMAGE: AOIFE COUGHLAN
CREDIT: INTERNATIONAL JUDO FEDERATION

COMBAT SPORTS



Aoife Coughlan became the first ever Australian to be ranked world number 1 on the International Judo Federation senior world ranking.

CYCLING



IMAGE: ALANA FORSTER
CREDIT: GETTY

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

CYCLING

The VIS cycling program supports athletes across Track (endurance and sprint), BMX Racing, BMX Freestyle, Mountain Bike Cross Country (XCO), Road, and Para cycling disciplines in alignment with AusCycling's high performance pathway. Throughout the year, VIS athletes continued to demonstrate strong performances both domestically and internationally. Under the guidance of newly appointed Olympic cycling coach, Tim Decker, the program also celebrated success at the national level, with athletes securing championship titles and podium performances across multiple disciplines. These results highlight the strength of the VIS cycling program and its continued contribution to developing athletes capable of achieving success at the highest levels of competition.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 UCI BMX Racing World Championships – Copenhagen, Denmark

- Joshua Jolly – 2nd U23 Men's BMX Racing

2025 UCI Road World Championships – Kigali, Rwanda

- Lucas Plapp – 1st Team Time Trial Mixed Relay

2025 UCI Para Road World Championships – Ronse, Belgium

- Tahlia Clayton-Goodie – 1st C1 Women's Road Race, 1st C1 Women's Time Trial
- Alana Forster – 1st C5 Women's Road Race, 1st C5 Women's Time Trial
- Emily Petricola OAM – 1st C3 Women's Time Trial

2025 UCI Para Track World Championships – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- Tahlia Clayton-Goodie – 1st C1 Women's Scratch Race, 1st C1 Women's Elimination Race, 1st C1 Women's Time Trial, 1st C1 Women's Sprint
- Erin Rowell – 1st C4 Mixed Team Sprint, 1st C4 Women's Sprint, 3rd C4 Women's Elimination Race
- Jessica Gallagher – 2nd Women's Tandem B Sprint, 3rd Women's Tandem B Time Trial, 1st Open Tandem B Team Sprint

2025 UCI Track World Championships – Santiago, Chile

- Blake Agnoletto – 2nd Men's Team Pursuit
- Alessia McCaig – 3rd Women's Team Sprint

In 2025 VIS Para cyclists won 11 world titles across Road and Track disciplines.

2026 Oceania Road Championships – Brisbane, Australia

- Julian Baudry – 2nd U23 Men's Road Race Time Trial
- Tahlia Clayton-Goodie – 1st C1 Women's Road Race Time Trial
- Alana Forster – 1st C5 Women's Road Race Time Trial

2026 UCI Oceania BMX Racing Continental Championships – Brisbane, Australia

- Joshua Jolly – 1st U23 Men's BMX Racing

2026 Oceania Track Championships – Cambridge, New Zealand

- Jessica Gallagher – 1st Open Tandem B Team Sprint, 1st Female Tandem B Sprint
- Erin Rowell – 1st Mixed C1–5 Team Sprint

2026 Mountain Bike National Championships – Mt Buller, Australia

- Ruby Taylor – 1st U23 Women's XCC, 1st U23 Female XCO
- Jack Ward – 1st Elite Men XCC, 1st Elite Men XCO
- Harry Doye – 2nd Elite Men XCC, 2nd Elite Men XCO

2026 UCI Track World Cup – Perth, Australia

- Alessia McCaig – 1st Women's Keirin
- Alyssa Polites – 2nd Women's Madison

2026 Track National Championships – Brisbane, Australia

- Tahlia Clayton-Goodie – 1st C1 Women's Sprint
- Jessica Gallagher – 1st Women's Tandem B Sprint
- Alessia McCaig – 1st Women's Sprint
- Tara Neyland – 1st C1–5 Women's Scratch Race
- Alistair Donohoe – 2nd C1–5 Men's Scratch Race
- Alana Forster – 2nd C1–5 Women's Scratch Race

2026 UCI Para World Cup – Gistel, Belgium

- Tara Neyland – 1st C4 Female Road Race, 1st C4 Female Time Trial

2026 UCI BMX Racing World Cup Round 4 – Papendal, Netherlands

- Joshua Jolly – 1st Men's BMX Racing U23

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)

COACHES

Vanessa Bof
Para Cycling Coach

Tim Decker
Cycling Endurance Head Coach (from August 2025)

Samantha de Riter
National Generation 2032 Coach – Cycling (until June 2026)

Shane Kelly
Cycling Sprint Coach

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Louise Cato
Assistant Nutrition Manager (from June 2026)

Dean Cooper
Performance Psychologist

Nathan Lee
Physical Preparation Coach (from April 2026)

Alison Low
Sports Physiotherapist (until January 2026)

Rachael Lynch OAM
Performance Lifestyle Adviser (until October 2025)

Dr Alice McNamara
Sports Physician

Dr Emily Meehan
Nutrition Manager

William Pyle
Performance Lifestyle Adviser (from September 2025)

Dr Tom Topham
Performance Scientist – Physiology

Ben Willey
Physical Preparation Coach (until April 2026)

ATHLETES

Blake Agnoletto
Stephanie Alexander
Caleb Antill
Talia Appleton
Julian Baudry
Sharon Boyd
Neve Bradbury
Fergus Browning
Isaac Burne
Tahlia Clayton-Goodie
Alistair Donohoe
Harry Doye
Alana Fletcher
Alana Forster
Alistair Forsyth
Jess Gallagher
Oscar Gallagher
Cameron Gatt
Sarah Gigante
Max Goold
Jack Haig
Imogen Jelbart
Cohen Jessen
Ollie Jirovec
Joshua Jolly
Lilyth Jones
Benjamin Luescher
Sophie Marr
Bella May
Alessia McCaig
Emma Mickle
Tara Neyland
Erin Rowell
Maxx Nuspan
Kelland O'Brien
Sam O'Grady
Emily Petricola
Lucas Plapp
Alyssa Polites
Brodie Quick
Ruby Roseman-Gannon
Lachlan Stewart
Lucinda Stewart
Ruby Taylor
Bodi Turner
Jack Ward
Caitlin Ward

TRAINING VENUES

Darebin International Sports Centre (DISC), Melbourne

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

AusCycling

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

DIVING

As one of five Performance Pathway Hubs, the VIS diving program works in partnership with Diving Australia (DA) and Diving Victoria to support the delivery of the DA Performance Strategy that supports and guides athletes and people to fulfil their potential in 2028 and beyond.

The current VIS squad is a blend of youth and experience, with athletes split evenly across the DA's national junior and senior squads.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 World Aquatics Diving World Championships - Kallang, Singapore

Australian Team Representation:
- Jonah Mercieca
- Georgia Sheehan
- Hudson Skinner
- Ben Wilson

2025 Australian Elite Junior Championships - Perth, Australia

- Keira Wang - 1st Girls A/B 3m Springboard Synchro

2026 Australian Open Diving Championships - Brisbane, Australia

- Natalie Phan - 1st Women's 1m Springboard
- Hudson Skinner - 1st Men's 3m Springboard Synchronised
- Ben Wilson - 1st Men's 1m Springboard, 1st Men's 3m Springboard

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

COACHES

Harriet Jones
VIS Head Diving Coach

Rebecca Stafford
VIS Diving Coach

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Brooke Bakaric
Sport & Exercise Physiotherapist - Post Graduate Scholar (from March 2026)

Andrew Cameron
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist (until February 2026)

Louise Cato
Assistant Nutrition Manager

Grace Claringbold
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Laura Cosgrove
Performance Psychologist

Matthew Vassie
Physical Preparation Coach

Dr Susan White AM
Chief Medical Officer / Director Performance Health

ATHLETES

Frank Burton
Hugo Devine
Lucy Dovison
Laura Hingston
Mackenzie Lehmann
Jonah Mercieca
Charli Petrov
Natalie Phan
Georgia Sheehan
Hudson Skinner
Keira Wang
Ben Wilson

TRAINING VENUES

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park

Aquanation, Ringwood

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Diving Australia

Diving Victoria

> "The support team have been exceptional in supporting our athletes over the last 12 months. They consistently go above and beyond to provide high-quality services and support, making a significant contribution to the athletes' success over the past 12 months."
> **- Harriet Jones**
> **VIS Diving Head Coach**



IMAGE VIS DIVING PROGRAM



DIVING

MEN'S HOCKEY





VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

MEN'S HOCKEY

The VIS men's hockey program, which underpins the national men's program based in Perth, provides elite coaching and support services to develop athletes and coaches to enable athletes to continually progress and gain selection in Australian senior and junior development squads.

During the reporting period, six VIS athletes represented Australia, with all six athletes involved in the International Hockey Federation (FIH) Pro League. Additionally, all 20 athletes were members of national squads over the past 12 months.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 Oceania Cup - Darwin, Australia

- Oceania Cup Champions - AUS - 3 def. NZ - 0 (3 Match Series)

Australian Team Representation: Nathan Ephraums, Liam Henderson, Jed Snowden

2025 Hockey One League - Various, Australia

- Hockey Club Melbourne Men - 1st

Team Representation: Cooper Burns, Nathan Ephraums, Liam Henderson, Kade Leigh, Craig Marais, Connar Otterbach, Nye Roberts, Jed Snowden, Ben White, Ollie Will

2025 Sultan of Johor Cup - Johor, Malaysia

- Australia (U21) - 1st

Australian Team Representation: Kade Leigh, Duncan Jackson, Ollie Will

2025 FIH Men's Junior World Cup - Chennai & Madurai, India

Australian Team Representation: Duncan Jackson, Kade Leigh, Ollie Will

2026 FIH Pro League

- Australia - 3rd

Team Representation: Cooper Burns, Nathan Ephraums, Liam Henderson, Craig Marais, Connar Otterbach, Jed Snowden

2026 Australia U18 India Tour - India

Team Representation: Jack Tamblyn

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

COACHES

Jay Stacy OLY
Head Coach

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Leesa Gallard
Performance Lifestyle Manager

Emma Hall
Performance Psychologist (until May 2026)

Mathew Harris
Performance Support Assistant Manager - Performance Analysis

Dr Philippa Inge
Sports Physician (parental leave until March 2026)

Ben King
Physical Preparation Coach

Sarina Lococo
Sports Dietitian

Kane Spagnolo
Sports Physiotherapist

Dr Susan White AM
Chief Medical Officer / Director Performance Health (parental leave cover until March 2026)

ATHLETES

Cooper Burns
Johan Durst
George Eaves
Nathan Ephraums
Liam Henderson
Lachlan Hodgson
Duncan Jackson
Baden Jones
Henry Laussen
Kade Leigh
Sam Lowndes
Craig Marais
Connar Otterbach
Nye Roberts
Jed Snowden
Jack Tamblyn
Freddy Waters
Ben White
Ollie Will
Jacob Yacono

TRAINING VENUES

State Netball and Hockey Centre, Parkville
VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Hockey Australia
Hockey Victoria

> "It has been great to see six VIS athletes really cement themselves as regular members of the Kookaburras squad over the past 12 months. This achievement reflects the strength of the program in developing athletes in Victoria and providing them with the foundation to achieve sustained success at the highest level of international competition."
> **- Jay Stacy (VIS Men's Hockey Head Coach)**

IMAGE: BEN WHITE
CREDIT: GETTY

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The VIS women's hockey program, which underpins the national women's program based in Perth, provides elite coaching and support services to develop athletes and coaches to enable athletes to continually progress and gain selection in Australian senior and junior development squads.

Six athletes were selected for the Hockeyroos in 2025/2026, including Zali Ward and Bianca Zurrer who made their debuts during the FIH Pro League in Hobart. Additionally, five athletes represented the Jillaroos (U21) at the 2025 Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 Oceania Cup - Darwin, Australia

- NZ - 2 def. AUS - 1 (3 Match Series)

Australian Team Representation: Amy Lawton

2025 Jillaroos (U21s) v India Series - Canberra, Australia

Australian Team Representation: Charlotte Hodgson, Josie Lawton, Samantha Love, Evie Stansby, Bianca Zurrer

2025 Hockey One League - Various, Australia

- Hockey Club Melbourne Women - 2nd

Team Representation: Olivia Downes, Charlotte Hodgson, Bridget Laurance, Samantha Love, Evie Stansby, Trinity Woodward, Bianca Zurrer

2025 FIH Women's Junior World Cup - Santiago, Chile

- Australia - 7th

Australian Team Representation: Charlotte Hodgson, Josie Lawton, Samantha Love, Evie Stansby, Bianca Zurrer

2026 FIH World Cup Qualifiers - Santiago, Chile

- Australia - 2nd

Australian Team Representation: Amy Lawton

2026 Australia U18 India Tour - India

Team Representation: Lauren Anderson, Mia Klimpsch, Gabriella Pezzimenti, Giselle Thompson

2026 FIH Pro League

- Australia - 8th

Team Representation: Olivia Downes, Rebecca Greiner, Amy Lawton, Sophie Murphy, Zali Ward, Bianca Zurrer

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

COACHES

Stacia Strain
Head Coach (until May 2026)

Daniel Mitchell
Assistant Coach (Head Coach from May 2026)

Tim Strapp
Assistant Coach (from May 2026)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Tyson Basford
Physical Preparation Coach

Leesa Gallard
Performance Lifestyle Manager

Emma Hall
Performance Psychologist (until May 2026)

Mathew Harris
Performance Support Assistant Manager - Performance Analysis

Sarina Lococo
Sports Dietitian

Dr Anik Shawdon
Sports Physician

Kane Spagnolo
Sports Physiotherapist

ATHLETES

Lauren Anderson
Daisy Caink
Olivia Downes
Rebecca Greiner
Maya Hilford
Charlotte Hodgson
Mia Klimpsch
Bridget Laurance
Amy Lawton
Josie Lawton
Samantha Love
Sophie Murphy
Gabriella Pezzimenti
Evie Stansby
Giselle Thompson
Zali Ward
Trinity Woodward
Candelaria Wortley
Bianca Zurrer

TRAINING VENUES

State Netball and Hockey Centre, Parkville
VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Hockey Australia
Hockey Victoria



"It has been a very busy year, with 15 athletes in the program selected to represent Australia at senior or junior level. It was particularly pleasing to see Liv transition to Perth and to see Bianca and Zali make their Hockeyroos debuts in February. These achievements are a tremendous reward for the hard work and commitment they have put in over a number of years."
- Daniel Mitchell (VIS Women's Hockey Head Coach)



WOMEN'S HOCKEY

IMAGE: VIS WOMEN'S HOCKEY PROGRAM

NETBALL



"The past 12 months has seen the Netball program achieve some outstanding results. At the elite level, the Vixens were crowned Suncorp Super Netball Champions. Several members of the team also went on to represent the Diamonds in international series.

From a development perspective, Charlotte Sexton and Lily Graham were members of the Australian team that claimed the 2025 Netball World Youth Cup. Lily was also named the tournament's Most Valuable Player (MVP), an outstanding achievement and a testament to the strength of the Victorian development pathway."

– Lyndsay Clarke (Netball Development Program Manager)

AND FINAL CHA

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

NETBALL

The aim of the VIS netball program is to prepare Victorian athletes for competition at elite domestic level, both within the Suncorp Super Netball and the Super Netball Reserves competitions and to prepare athletes for selection into senior national teams and underage squads.

The VIS Vixens program works in partnership with Netball Victoria to provide coaching and performance service support to the Melbourne Vixens for their Suncorp Super Netball campaign. In 2025 the Vixens returned to the Grand Final, this time defeating the West Coast Fever by a single goal.

The VIS development program works in partnership with Netball Australia and Netball Victoria to offer a foundational program that delivers world-class coaching, training, and performance support. This program targets nationally identified underage squad athletes, assisting them to enhance their competitive performance and achieve their full potential on and off the court.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 Suncorp Super Netball Season

- Melbourne Vixens - Champions

2025 Netball World Youth Cup - Gibraltar

- Australia - 1st

Australian Team Representation: Lily Graham, Charlotte Sexton

2025 Australia v South Africa Test Match Series - Australia

- Series Champions - AUS - 3 def. RSA - 0 (3 Match Series)

Australian Team Representation: Kiera Austin, Sophie Garbin, Kate Moloney, Hannah Mundy, Jo Weston

2025 Constellation Cup - Australia/New Zealand

- Constellation Cup Champions
- Australia won the series 2-2 (12 -11 in series decider) (4 test match series)

Australian Team Representation: Kiera Austin, Sophie Garbin, Kate Moloney

2026 Australia v Jamaica Test Match Series

- Series Champions – AUS - 3 def. JAM - 0 (3 Match Series)

Australian Team Representation: Kiera Austin, Sophie Garbin, Kate Moloney, Jo Weston

2026 U19 National Championships - Melbourne, Australia

- Victoria - 3rd

Team Representation: Mia Aitken, Sahara Ball, Gemma Meadley, Alice O'Callaghan, Mackenzie O'Dwyer

2026 Super Netball Reserves - Australia

- Melbourne Mavericks Reserves - 4th

Team Representation: Mia Aitken, Amalani Fauonuku, Alice O'Callaghan, Mackenzie O'Dwyer

- Melbourne Vixens Reserves - 5th

Team Representation: Zali Anderson, Sahara Ball, Maggie Caris, Lily Graham, Mia Lavis, Charli Nicol, Ally O'Connor

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Lyndsay Clarke
Netball Development Program Manager

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

COACHES

Wendy Edge
Netball Development Coach (from November 2025)

Di Honey
Assistant Coach - VIS/Vixens Netball (Head Coach from September 2025)

Simone McKinnis
Head Coach - VIS/Vixens Netball (until August 2025)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Kylie Andrew
Nutrition Manager, Advanced Sports Dietitian (until January 2026)

Emily Athanasiou
Soft Tissue Therapist (Vixens)

Milli Bilson
Performance Analysis (Development Program)

Dr Peter Browne
Performance Scientist - Performance Analysis & Skill Acquisition (Vixens)

Lyndsay Clarke
Physical Preparation Coach (Development Program)

Kim Gray
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Steve Hawkins
Physiotherapist / STT Manager

Emma Iacovou
Physiotherapist (Vixens)

Dr Samantha May
Sports Physician (Vixens)

Emily Meehan
Nutrition Manager (Vixens) (from February 2026)

Amber Ross
Performance Psychologist (Development Program) (until April 2026)

Rachel Stentiford
Sports Dietitian (Development Program) (from February 2026)

Dave Veli
Physical Preparation Coach (Vixens) (until February 2026)

Dr Susan White AM
Chief Medical Officer / Director Performance Health

ATHLETES

Vixens Squad and Training Partners

Zali Anderson
Keira Austin
Maggie Caris
Kate Eddy
Rudi Ellis
Sophie Garbin
Lily Graham
Mia Lavis
Emily Mannix
Kate Moloney
Hannah Mundy
Ally O'Connor
Charlotte Sexton
Ruby Shannon
Zara Walters
Tara Watson
Jo Weston

Development Program

Mia Aitken
Sahara Ball
Allie Davidson
Amalani Fauonuku
Harriet Gall
Tepaea Hobson
Charli Hoey
Gemma Meadley
Eliza Molino
Charli Nicol
Alice O'Callaghan
Mackenzie O'Dwyer
Eva Ryan
Leila Simpson
Mia Van Wyk

TRAINING VENUES

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park

State Netball and Hockey Centre, Parkville

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Netball Australia

Netball Victoria



IMAGE: MELBOURNE VIXENS, 2025 SUNCORP SUPER NETBALL CHAMPIONS
CREDIT: GETTY

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

SHOOTING

In partnership with Shooting Australia, the VIS shooting program is committed to developing high performance shotgun athletes through a structured and athlete-centred training environment. The program provides access to expert coaching, integrated performance support services, and competition opportunities that drive continued growth and success. The ongoing commitment of experienced coaches and support staff ensures athletes receive the guidance and resources required to achieve high-level performances.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 ISSF World Cup - Lonato, Italy

- Mitchell Iles - 1st Mixed Team Trap
- Laetisha Scanlan - 1st Mixed Team Trap, 1st Women's Trap

2026 ACTA National Championships - Melbourne, Australia

- Mitchell Iles - 1st Men's Trap
- Penny Smith - 1st Women's Trap

2026 ISSF Grand Prix - Doha, Qatar

- Ben De Pedro - 1st Men's Junior Trap
- Laetisha Scanlan - 2nd Women's Trap
- Lucas Furlan - 3rd Men's Junior Trap

2026 ISSF World Cup - Almaty, Kazakhstan

- Penny Smith - 1st Women's Trap

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Adam Hosking
Shotgun Program Manager - Shooting Australia

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)

COACHES

Renae Birgan
Olympic Athlete Coach (Shotgun) - Shooting Australia

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Elaine Bo
Sports Dietitian

Daniel Dymond
Performance Psychology Manager

Josh Ferguson
Sports Physiotherapist

Ryan Hatfield
Performance Scientist (from January 2026)

Shenae Keleher
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Dr James Ooi
Sports Physician

ATHLETES

Nathan Argiro
Molly Bretag
Marco Corbo
Kiara Dean
Ben De Pedro
Lucas Furlan
Thomas Grice
Mitchell Iles
Aislin Jones
Laetisha Scanlan
Gabriel Sensi
Penny Smith
James Willett

TRAINING VENUES

Melbourne Gun Club, Yering

VIS Gymnasium

Various shooting ranges throughout Victoria

PARTNERS

Shooting Australia

Penny Smith broke the World Record in the final at the World Cup in Almaty, shooting all 30 targets.



IMAGE: JAMES WILLETT
CREDIT: INDEPENDENT PHOTO AGENCY SRL / ALAMY



SHOOTING

SWIMMING



VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

SWIMMING

The VIS swimming program supports athletes through the delivery of a collaborative and high performance DPE. Developed in partnership with Swimming Australia and Swimming Victoria, the program works closely with coaches and athletes to foster excellence across all aspects of performance and athlete development. Supported by an expert support team, the program is committed to preparing athletes to achieve success at national and international competition.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 World Aquatics Championships - Kallang, Singapore

- Nicholas Sloman - 5th Mixed 4x1500m Open Water

2025 Para Swimming World Championships - Kallang, Singapore

- Ahmed Kelly - 2nd Men's 150m Individual Medley SM3
- Col Pearse - 3rd Men's 100m Butterfly S10, 4th Men's 200m Individual Medley SM10

2026 World Aquatics Open Water Championships - Golfo Aranci, Italy

- Nicholas Sloman - 3rd Mixed 4x1500m Open Water

2026 Australian Age Championships - Brisbane, Australia

- Henry Allan - 1st Men's 200m Backstroke, 1st Men's 200m Freestyle, 1st Men's 50m Freestyle, 1st Men's 100m Backstroke, 1st Men's 50m Backstroke
- Lily Koch - 1st Women's 100m Backstroke, 1st Women's 50m Backstroke

2026 Australian Open Championships - Brisbane, Australia

- Sam Williamson - 1st Men's 50m Breaststroke
- Tara Kinder - 1st Women's 200m Breaststroke

2026 Swimming Trials - Sydney, Australia

- Tara Kinder - 1st Women's 200m Individual Medley
- William Petric - 1st Men's 200m Individual Medley, 1st Men's 400m Individual Medley
- Ella Ramsay - 1st Women's 200m Breaststroke
- Zac Stubblety-Cook - 1st Men's 200m Backstroke
- Sam Williamson - 1st Men's 100m Backstroke, 1st Men's 50m Breaststroke



IMAGE: COL PEARSE
CREDIT: GETTY

Henry Allan at age 17 broke multiple national records at the 2026 Australian Age Championships and has become one of the fastest backstrokers in Australian history.

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Dr Victoria Brackley
Performance Scientist - Biomechanics + Learning Design

Karla Bulte
Performance Scientist - Physiology (from May 2026)

Andrew Cameron
Sports Physiotherapist

Louise Cato
Assistant Nutrition Manager

Samantha McLeod
Performance Psychologist

Dr Alice McNamara
Sports Physician

Dr Lachlan Mitchell
Performance Scientist - Physiology

Jono Wallace Smith
Physical Preparation Coach

Sam Waters
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

ATHLETES

Henry Allan
Cameron Bladen
Isabella Boyd
Hamish Keenan
Ahmed Kelly
Tara Kinder
Lily Koch
Noah Millard
Semra Olowoniyi
Col Pearse
Will Petric
Ella Ramsay
David Schlicht
Nicholas Sloman
Nick Stoupas
Zac Stubblety-Cook
Sam Williamson
Jessica Wilson

TRAINING VENUES

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park
VIS Aquatics
VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Swimming Australia
Swimming Victoria

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

TRIATHLON

In partnership with AusTriathlon, the VIS triathlon program supports elite triathletes through a high performance training environment. Under the leadership of Brendan Sexton, athletes receive expert coaching and access to a team of high performance specialists to maximise their development and competitive success. Throughout the year, VIS triathletes represented Australia at a range of international competitions, including World Cups and Oceania Championships. The program remains committed to developing athletes capable of achieving success on the world stage while promoting the growth and profile of triathlon across Victoria.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 World Para Triathlon Championships – Wollongong, Australia

- Jeremy Peacock – 2nd Mixed Relay, 7th Men's PTS4
- Maggie Sandles – 2nd Mixed Relay, 7th Women's PTVI
- Hannah Macdougall – 3rd Women's PTS4

2026 World Triathlon Championship Final – Wollongong, Australia

Australian Team Representation:
- Callum McClusky

2026 Oceania Triathlon Para Championships – Runaway Bay, Australia

- Jack Howell – 1st Men's PTS5
- Maggie Sandles – 1st Women's PTVI
- Jeremy Peacock – 3rd Men's PTS4

2026 World Para Series – Yokohama, Japan

- Jack Howell – 2nd Men's PTS5
- Maggie Sandles – 2nd Women's PTVI

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator
(until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator
(from February 2026)

COACHES

Brendan Sexton
Para triathlon Pathways Coach – AusTriathlon

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Amber Bennett
Sports Physiotherapist
(until August 2025)

Dr Victoria Brackley
Performance Scientist – Biomechanics + Learning Design (projects)

Karla Bulte
Performance Scientist – Physiology
(from May 2026)

Grace Claringbold
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Amber Ross
Performance Psychologist
(until April 2026)

Katie Sandford
Sports Physiotherapist
(from August 2025)

Lucy Scott
Performance Scientist – Physiology
(until May 2026)

Rachel Stentiford
Sports Dietitian

Bree Van Ryswyk
Performance Psychologist
(from June 2026)

Matthew Vassie
Physical Preparation Coach

Dr Susan White AM
Chief Medical Officer /
Director Performance Health

ATHLETES

Jack Howell
Hannah Macdougall
Callum McClusky
Kiara Mooney
Jeremy Peacock
Maggie Sandles
Liam Twomey

TRAINING VENUES

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

AusTriathlon

Triathlon Victoria

Paralympics Australia



IMAGE: HANNAH MACDOUGALL
CREDIT: GETTY


TRIATHLON
World Triathlon
AUS
MACDOUGALL
AUS
Peco
Farms

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL



VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL



IMAGE: LAURA DAVOLI
CREDIT: GETTY

The VIS wheelchair basketball program operates in partnership with Basketball Australia and Basketball Victoria to deliver the high performance program for wheelchair basketball in Victoria.

The program aims to maximise the development of elite Victorian wheelchair basketball athletes to achieve national and international success, aligned with the national program's direction and targets. Athletes are supported through a world-class DPE, including access to facilities and comprehensive support services as they pursue international excellence.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 Men's IWBF 3x3 World Championships – Sun City, South Africa

- Australia – 5th

Team Representation: Tomas Klein

2025 National Wheelchair Basketball League – Various, Australia

- Jaylen Brown – 1st Darwin Salties

2025 Men's IWBF Asia Oceania Championships – Bangkok, Thailand

- Australia – 1st

Team Representation: Jaylen Brown, Jontee Brown, Jeremy Tyndall

2025 Women's IWBF Asia Oceania Championships – Bangkok, Thailand

- Australia – 3rd

Team Representation: Laura Davoli, Isabel Martin, Shelley Matheson

2026 Kevin Coombs Cup (Junior Nationals) – Brisbane, Australia

- Victoria – 2nd

Team Representation: Harriet Caldwell, Rhys Higgins, Jack Thomas

2026 IWBF Europe Champions Cup Final – Istanbul, Turkey

- Jaylen Brown, Jontee Brown – 1st Besiktas

2026 Men's Four Nations Tournament – Canberra, Australia

Team Representation: Lachlin Dalton, Tomas Klein, Jeremy Tyndall

PROGRAM STAFF

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

COACHES

Jeremy Synot
Wheelchair Basketball Head Coach

Jules Ore
Wheelchair Basketball Assistant Coach (from May 2026)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Dr Bronwyn Anderson
Sports Physician (from January 2026)

Elaine Bo
Sports Dietitian

Eva Cafolla
Physical Preparation Coach (from May 2026)

Fiona Jacobs
Physiotherapist

Shenae Keleher
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Nathan Lee
Performance Support Assistant Manager – Physical Preparation (until May 2026)

Amber Ross
Performance Psychologist (until April 2026)

Dr Patrick Sunderland
Sports Physician (until January 2026)

ATHLETES

Mitchell Bond
Jaylen Brown
Jontee Brown
Sarah Calati
Harriet Caldwell
Brady Cochrane
Lachlin Dalton
Laura Davoli
Will Firth
Rhys Higgins
Tomas Klein
Chithic Machar
Isabel Martin
Shelley Matheson
Oscar Mugerwa
Jack Thomas
Jeremy Tyndall

TRAINING VENUES

Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park

The Hangar, Essendon

VIS Gymnasium

PARTNERS

Basketball Australia

Basketball Victoria

> "It's been exciting working with such a talented and dedicated group of athletes and support staff over the past 12 months. This year, eight members of the squad represented the Rollers or Gliders on the international stage, half our cohort, which is an outstanding achievement. I am really looking forward to what they can achieve at the upcoming World Championships."
> **– Jeremy Synot – VIS Wheelchair Basketball Head Coach**

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Individual Athlete Scholarship Program (IASP) provides comprehensive high performance support to athletes outside of the Tier 1 sport programs. Athletes within the IASP are at various stages of their high performance journey, from established podium contenders achieving results at national and international level, to emerging athletes entering the VIS for the first time.

Athletes within the IASP have access to performance services, as well as the world-class training and recovery facilities at the VIS HQ. The program continues to showcase some of Australia's most exciting athletes across a diverse range of Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games sports.

Throughout 25/26, the IASP remained focused on providing flexible, athlete-centred support, ensuring athletes maximised the opportunities available. This tailored approach enabled athletes to address their individual performance needs, enhance their development and pursue success in their sport.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

ARCHERY

2025 World Archery Youth Championships - Winnipeg, Canada
- Jai Crawley - 3rd Individual Recurve, 3rd Compound Mixed Team

2025 World Archery Championships - Gwangju, South Korea

Australian Team Representation:
- Jai Crawley
- Laura Paeglis

2025 World Archery Para Championships - Gwangju, South Korea

Australian Team Representation:
- Patrick French

2025 National Target Championships - Canberra, Australia
- Jai Crawley - 1st Individual Recurve, 1st Recurve Men's Team
- Laura Paeglis - 1st Recurve Mixed Team

BADMINTON

2025 4 Nations Para Badminton International - Cardiff, Great Britain
- Mischa Ginns - 1st Class WH2 Women's Singles

2025 BWF World Championships - Paris, France

Australian Team Representation:
- Angela Yu

2025 BWF World Junior Mixed Team & Individual Championships - Guwahati, India

Australian Team Representation:
- Shrey Dhand

2025 VICTOR Oceania Para Badminton Championships - Bendigo, Australia
- Mischa Ginns - 1st Class WH1-WH2 Mixed Doubles, 3rd Class WH2 Women's Singles
- Celine Vinot - 1st Class SL3 Women's Singles, 3rd Class SL3-SL5 Mixed Doubles

2026 VICTOR Oceania Open Individual & Mixed Teams Championships - Christchurch, New Zealand
- Shrey Dhand - 1st Men's Singles, 1st Men's Teams
- Angela Yu - 1st Women's Doubles, 1st Mixed Doubles, 1st Women's Teams

2026 BWF Para Badminton World Championships - Manama, Bahrain

Australian Team Representation:
- Mischa Ginns
- Celine Vinot

2026 Thomas & Uber Cup Team Finals

Australian Team Representation:
- Shrey Dhand
- Angela Yu

Australian Badminton Falcons National Squad
- Shrey Dhand
- Kayson Goh
- Angela Yu



IMAGE: KATE MCDONALD
CREDIT: GETTY

Australian Para Badminton Falcons All Around National Squad
- Mischa Ginns
- Celine Vinot

BASEBALL

2026 World Baseball Classic - Japan, Puerto Rico & USA

Australian Team Representation:
- Chris Burke
- Jarryd Dale
- Jon Kennedy
- Blake Townsend
- Aaron Whitefield

Team Australia Squad
- Jarrod Belbin
- Jarryd Dale
- Darryl George
- Jon Kennedy
- Blake Townsend
- Aaron Whitefield

BASKETBALL

2025 FIBA Women's Asian Cup - Shenzhen, China
- Australia - 1st

Team Representation: Chloe Bibby, Sara Blicavs, Stephanie Reid

2026 FIBA Women's 3x3 Asian Cup - Kallang, Singapore
- Australia - 1st

Team Representation: Kristy Wallace

2026 FIBA World Cup Qualifiers - Istanbul, Turkey
- Australia - 1st

Team Representation: Chloe Bibby, Eziyoda Magbegor, Jade Melbourne, Stephanie Reid, Alanna Smith

Opals National Squad
- Chloe Bibby
- Stephanie Reid
- Maddison Rocci

BOXING

2025 World Boxing Championships - Liverpool, Great Britain

Australian Team Representation:
- Jacob Cassar
- Marissa Williamson Pohlman

2026 Boxing World Cup - Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

Australian Team Representation:
- Jacob Cassar
- Omer Izaz

2026 Boxing World Cup - Guiyang City, China

Australian Team Representation:
- Jacob Cassar
- Omer Izaz

2026 Boxing Australia Team:
- Jacob Cassar - Tier 1
- Omer Izaz - Tier 2
- Tyler McDonald - Tier 3

CANOEING

2025 ICF Junior and U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships - Foix, France
- Benjamin Ross - 5th Men's C1 Team
- Sarah Crosbee - 7th Women's C1 Team
- Georgia O'Callaghan - 7th Women's K1 Team
- James Stamp - 8th Men's K1 Team

Australian Team Representation:
- Riley Galea
- Sebastian Montalto

2025 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships - Penrith, Australia
- Benjamin Ross - 4th Men's C1 Team
- Tristan Carter - 5th Men's C1 Team
- Sarah Crosbee - 5th Women's K1 Team

Australian Team Representation:
- Georgia O'Callaghan

2026 Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Age National Championships - Penrith, Australia
- Tristan Carter - 1st C1 Men's

CURLING

2026 Curling Australia National Championships - Naseby, New Zealand
- Dean Hewitt - 1st Mixed Doubles

2026 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship - Geneva, Switzerland
- Dean Hewitt - 1st Mixed Doubles

EQUESTRIAN

2025 National Para Dressage Championships - Boneo, Australia
- Bridget Murphy - 1st Dressage Grade II
- Zoe Vorenas - 1st Dressage Grade IV

Australian High Performance Squad - Generation Next
- Zoe Vorenas

Australian High Performance Squad - Green
- Dianne Barnes

Australian High Performance Squad - Gold
- Stella Barton
- Bridget Murphy

FOOTBALL

2026 AFC Women's Asian Cup - Sydney, Australia
- Australia - 2nd

Team Representation: Stephanie Catley

Matildas National Squad
- Stephanie Catley

GYMNASTICS

2025 Australian Gymnastics Championships - Gold Coast, Australia
- Miella Brown - 1st Team All Around
- Kate McDonald - 1st Team All Around, 1st Uneven Bars, 1st Floor
- Breanna Scott - 1st Team All Around, 1st Individual All Around, 1st Beam

2025 53rd FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Championships - Jakarta, Indonesia
- Kate McDonald - 5th Uneven Bars

Australian Team Representation:
- Breanna Scott

2025 38th FIG Trampoline Gymnastics World Championships - Pamplona, Spain

Australian Team Representation:
- Brock Batty

2026 FIG Apparatus World Cup - Antalya, Turkey
- Kate McDonald - 2nd Beam, 2nd Floor
- Breanna Scott - 3rd Beam

2026 Oceania Artistic Championship - Brisbane, Australia
- Emily Whitehead - 1st Individual All Around, 1st Team All Around

LACROSSE

2026 Sekai Cross Men's Sixes Tournament - Tokyo, Japan
- Australia - 1st

Team Representation: Sean Aaron, Marcus Arambatzis, Mitchell Baker, Dylan Harari, Donnie Howard

2026 Men's Sixes National Squad
- Sean Aaron
- Marcus Arambatzis
- Mitchell Baker
- Callan Gibson
- Dylan Harari
- Donnie Howard

2026 Women's Sixes National Squad
- Lauren Hunter
- Stephanie Kelly
- Danelle Mollison
- Sarah Smith
- Lauren Tolve
- Marlee Wood
- Bonnie Yu

LAWN BOWLS

2025 Jackaroos' Tour of Scotland - Scotland
- Cassandra Millerick - 1st Women's Pairs
- Kylie Whitehead - 1st Women's Pairs

2025 BPL Cup National Final - Bray Park, Australia
- Cassandra Millerick - 1st Mixed Pairs

2025 Para National Championships - Devonport, Australia
- Joshua Barry - 1st Open Triples Multi-Disability
- Lucas Protopapas - 1st Open Triples Multi-Disability

2025 Australian Open - Gold Coast, Australia
- Cassandra Millerick - 2nd Women's Singles

Australian Jackaroos Squad
- Olivia Cartwright
- Cassandra Millerick

Australian Para Jackaroos Squad
- Joshua Barry

Australian Emerging Jackaroos Squad
- Tyson Cromie
- Sophie Kurzman
- Lisa Phillips

Australian Emerging Para Jackaroos Squad
- Lucas Protopapas

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ROWING

2025 World Rowing Championships - Shanghai, China
- Marcus Emmett - 4th Men's Eight
- Jack Robertson - 4th Men's Eight
- Fergus Hamilton - 5th Men's Four
- Austin Reinehr - 5th Men's Four
- Paige Barr - 6th Women's Eight
- Katherine Easton - 6th Women's Eight
- Georgie Gleeson - 6th Women's Eight
- Hayley Verbunt - 6th Women's Eight

2025 World Rowing U23 Championships - Poznan, Poland
- Romy Cantwell - 3rd Women's Single Scull
- Tom Foley - 5th Men's Four
- Winston Hooper - 5th Men's Four
- Anna Morrison - 8th Women's Eight

2026 World Cup 1 - Seville, Spain
- Paige Barr - 1st Women's Eight
- Eliza Gaffney - 1st Women's Eight
- Georgie Gleeson - 1st Women's Eight
- Hayley Verbunt - 1st Women's Eight

2026 Australian Rowing Championships - Tasmania, Australia
- Romy Cantwell - 1st Women's Quadruple Scull, 1st Women's Eight, 2nd Women's Double Scull
- Tom Foley - 1st U23 Men's Coxless Four, 1st U23 Men's Eight, 2nd U23 Men's Coxless Pair
- Fergus Hamilton - 1st Men's Coxless Four, 2nd Men's Eight
- Winston Hooper - 1st U23 Men's Coxed Eight, 2nd Men's Eight, 3rd Men's Coxless Four
- Zara Kfouri - 1st Women's Quadruple Scull, 2nd U23 Women's Double Scull
- Susannah Lutze - 1st PR3 Women's Coxless Pair, 2nd PR3 Women's Single Scull
- Jack Robertson - 1st Men's Coxless Four, 2nd Men's Eight
- Benjamin Canham - 2nd Men's Coxless Four, 2nd Men's Eight
- Dominic Frederico - 2nd Men's Double Scull, 3rd Men's Eight
- Rohan Lavery - 2nd Men's Coxless Four, 2nd Men's Eight, 2nd Men's Coxless Pair
- Austin Reinehr - 2nd Men's Eight
- Nick Smith - 2nd Men's Coxless Four, 2nd Men's Eight
- Paige Barr - 3rd Women's Single Scull
- Emmie Frederico - 3rd Women's Coxless Pair

2026 World Cup 3 - Lucerne, Switzerland
- Susannah Lutze - 1st PR3 Women's Pair, 3rd PR3 Coxed Four Mixed
- Paige Barr - 2nd Women's Eight
- Eliza Gaffney - 2nd Women's Eight
- Georgie Gleeson - 2nd Women's Eight
- Hayley Verbunt - 2nd Women's Eight
- Fergus Hamilton - 3rd Men's Eight
- Rohan Lavery - 3rd Men's Eight
- Jack Robertson - 3rd Men's Eight

SAILING

2025 iQFoil World Championship - Aarhus, Denmark

Australian Team Representation:
- Anna Cripsey
- Philip Cripsey

2025 Trans-Tasman 49er Series - Hamilton, New Zealand
- Laura Harding - 1st 49erFX

2025 49er & 49erFX World Championship - Cagliari Poetto, Italy

Australian Team Representation:
- Laura Harding

2026 49erFX National Championship - Lake Macquarie, Australia
- Laura Harding - 1st 49erFX

2026 49erFX World Championship - Quiberon, France

Australian Team Representation:
- Laura Harding

SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

2026 Winter Olympic Games - Milano Cortina, Italy

Australian Team Representation:
- Brendan Corey - Men's 500m, 1000m & 1500m

2026 ISU CNSG Short Track World Championships - Montreal, Canada
- Brendan Corey - 8th 1500m

SKATEBOARDING

2025 World Skate Games World Championship - Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Keefer Wilson - 5th Men's Park

Australian Team Representation:
- Aaliyah Wilson

SNOWBOARDING

2026 Snowboard World Cup - Laax, Switzerland
- Scotty James - 1st Men's Halfpipe

2026 X Games - Aspen, USA
- Scotty James - 1st Men's Halfpipe

2026 Winter Olympic Games - Milano Cortina, Italy
- Scotty James - 2nd Men's Halfpipe

2025-26 VISA FIS Snowboard World Cup's - Various Countries

Australian Team Representation:
- Camilla Bongiorno

SOFTBALL

2025 International Softball Series - Queensland, Australia
- Hannah Scott - 1st Women's Team

SPORT CLIMBING

2025 IFSC World Cup - Koper, Slovenia

Australian Team Representation:
- Campbell Harrison

2025 IFSC Para Climbing World Championships - Seoul, South Korea
- Sarah Larcombe - 2nd Women's Lead AL2

Australian Team Representation:
- Glen Todd

2025 IFSC Climbing World Championships - Seoul, South Korea

Australian Team Representation:
- Oceana Mackenzie
- Campbell Harrison

2025 National Championships - Victoria, Australia
- Sarah Larcombe - 1st Women's Lead AL2
- Glen Todd - 1st Men's Lead RP1

2026 World Climbing Oceania Series - Sydney, Australia
- Maya Stasiuk - 1st Women's Boulder

2026 World Climbing Series - Keqiao, China
- Oceana Mackenzie - 3rd Women's Boulder

2026 IFSC Para Climbing World Cup - Salt Lake City, USA
- Sarah Larcombe - 2nd Women's Lead AL2

Australian Team Representation:
- Glen Todd

2026 World Climbing Series - Bern, Switzerland
- Oceana Mackenzie - 1st Women's Boulder

2026 World Climbing Series - Innsbruck, Austria
- Oceana Mackenzie - 3rd Women's Boulder

SQUASH

2025 WSF World Junior Individual & Team Championships - New Cairo, Egypt

Australian Team Representation:
- Darcy Hayes
- Joanne Joseph

2025 WSF World Cup - Chennai, India

Australian Team Representation:
- Dylan Molinaro

2026 New Zealand Junior Squash Open - Christchurch, New Zealand
- Joanne Joseph - 1st Women's Singles

2026 Australian Junior Open - Melbourne, Australia
- Joanne Joseph - 1st Women's Singles

National Junior Talent Squad
- Joanne Joseph

National Senior Squad
- Dylan Molinaro



IMAGE: SARAH LARCOMBE
CREDIT: SLOBODAN MIŠKOVIĆ



IMAGE: OCEANA MACKENZIE
CREDIT: WORLD CLIMBING

SURFING

2025 ISA World Surfing Games – La Bocana, El Salvador
- Ellie Harrison – 1st Shortboard Team

2025 Ericeira Pro – Ericeira, Portugal
- India Robinson – 2nd Shortboard

2025 Taiwan Open – Jinzun Harbor, Taiwan
- Xavier Huxtable – 3rd Shortboard

Championship Tour Wild Card Qualification (Rip Curl Pro) – Bells Beach, Victoria
- Ellie Harrison
- Xavier Huxtable

TABLE TENNIS

2025 National Championships – Para, Senior, Youth and Junior – Gippsland, Australia
- Christopher Addis – 1st Open Class 1-5 Wheelchair Singles, 1st Open Class 1-5 Wheelchair Doubles, 1st Class 1-5 Mixed Teams
- Daniela Di Toro – 1st Open Class 1-5 Wheelchair Singles, 1st Open Class 4-5 Wheelchair Singles, 1st Open Class 1-5 Wheelchair Mixed Doubles, 1st Class 1-5 Mixed Teams

2025 ITTF Oceania Para Championships – Auckland, New Zealand
- Christopher Addis – 1st Open Class 7-10 Wheelchair Mixed Doubles
- Daniela Di Toro – 1st Open Class 3-5 Wheelchair Singles, 1st Open Class 7-10 Wheelchair Mixed Doubles
- Lina Lei OAM – 1st Open Class 7-10 Singles, 1st Open Class 14-20 Doubles Mixed
- Lin Ma – 1st Open Class 9-10, 1st Open Class 14-20 Doubles Mixed, 1st Open Class 14-20 Doubles Men's
- Nathan Pellissier – 1st Open Class 8

2025 ITTF World Youth Championships – Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Australian Team Representation:
- Connie Psihogios
- Aditya Sareen

2025 ITTF Mixed Team World Cup – Chengdu, China

Australian Team Representation:
- Yangzi Liu
- Nicholas Lum
- Finn Luu
- Connie Psihogios

2026 ITTF Oceania Senior Championships – Christchurch, New Zealand
- Yangzi Liu – 1st Women's Singles
- Finn Luu – 1st Men's Doubles

2026 ITTF Men's & Women's World Cup – Macao, China

Australian Team Representation:
- Yangzi Liu
- Nicholas Lum
- Finn Luu
- Aditya Sareen

2025/2026 National Senior Squad
- Yangzi Liu
- Nicholas Lum
- Finn Luu
- Connie Psihogios
- Aditya Sareen

2025/2026 National Squad (Para)
- Christopher Addis
- Daniela Di Toro
- Lina Lei OAM
- Lin Ma
- Nathan Pellissier
- Qian Yang OAM

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

WATER POLO

2026 Aussie Sharks National Squad
- Blake Edwards

2026 Men's National Development Squad
- Daniel Magasanik
- Tyson Mutsch
- Oliver Purcell

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

2025 WWR Asia Oceania Championship – Bangkok, Thailand
- Australia – 2nd

Team Representation: Ben Fawcett, Shae Graham

2026 Santos Wheelchair Rugby World Challenge – Adelaide, Australia
- Australia – 3rd

Team Representation: Shae Graham, James McQuillan

2026 Canada Cup – British Columbia, Canada
- Australia – 2nd

Team Representation: Shae Graham, James McQuillan

2026 Extended High Performance Squad
- Shae Graham
- Ben Fawcett
- James McQuillan
- Cameron Wales

> This year, the VIS proudly welcomed back baseball and lacrosse, strengthening our support for these sports on their journey to the LA28 Olympic Games. The VIS is currently supporting 23 podium-level athletes across these sports in the lead-up to the Games. With a rich and successful history in Victoria, both sports have deep roots in the state, and we're excited to play a role in helping shape their next chapter of success on the international stage."
> **– David Madigan, General Manager High Performance**

PROGRAM STAFF

David Madigan
General Manager High Performance – IASP / FTP

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance (Rowing)

Emily Hamilton-Smith
Performance Coordinator

Olivia Jarvis
Performance Coordinator
(parental leave from July 2025)

Charli Kappa
Performance Coordinator
(from July 2025)

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (Rowing)
(until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (Rowing)
(from February 2026)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Sports Physicians

Dr Philippa Inge (from March 2026)
Dr Alice McNamara
Dr James Ooi
Dr Anik Shawdon
Dr Patrick Sunderland
Dr Susan White AM

Performance Psychologists

Caroline Anderson
Dean Cooper
Daniel Dymond
Nick Ferrier (from June 2026)
Emma Hall (until April 2026)
Michael Inglis
Amber Ross (until April 2026)
Bree Van Ryswyk

Physiotherapists

Amber Bennett (until August 2025)
Kevin Craigie
Josh Ferguson
Andrew Fooks
Jacqueline Gurr
(parental leave from August 2025)
Steve Hawkins
Tamara Lidums
Dr Ebonie Rio
Kane Spagnolo
Brooke Bakaric (from March 2026)
Fiona Jacobs (from August 2025)

Soft Tissue Therapists

Emily Athanasiou
Gillian Niven

Physical Preparation Coaches

Lyndsay Clarke
Cate Gifford
Hana Glasgow-Palmer (from October 2025)
Ben King
Nathan Lee
Will Morgan
Luke Stevens (from March 2026)
Matthew Vassie
Jarrod Vos
Jono Wallace Smith
Ben Willey (until April 2026)

Performance Scientists

Dr Peter Browne (from January 2026)
Milli Bilson
Karla Bulte (from May 2026)
Lucy Scott (until May 2026)

Sports Dietitians

Kylie Andrew (until January 2026)
Elaine Bo
Louise Cato
Siobhan Crawshay (until May 2026)
Sarina Lococo
Dr Emily Meehan
Rachel Stentiford

Performance Lifestyle Advisers

Grace Claringbold
Kim Gray
Shenae Keleher
Rachael Lynch (until October 2025)
Brooke Penfold (from March 2026)
William Pyle (from September 2025)
Aimie Rocci
Sam Waters

ATHLETES

Sean Aaron / Lacrosse
Christopher Addis / Para table tennis
Miyabi Akiya / Gymnastics
Rebecca Allen / Basketball
Marcus Arambatzis / Lacrosse
Samantha Atkinson / Lawn Bowls
Mitchell Baker / Lacrosse
Dianne Barnes / Para equestrian
Paige Barr / Rowing
Joshua Barry / Para lawn bowls
Nick Bartlett / Rowing
Stella Barton / Para equestrian
Amanda Bateman / Rowing
Charlie Batrouney / Rowing
Brock Batty / Gymnastics
Jarrod Belbin / Baseball
Chloe Bibby / Basketball
Sara Blicavs / Basketball
Camilla Bongiorno / Snowboarding
Miella Brown / Gymnastics
Romi Brown / Gymnastics
Alice Buchanan / Sailing
Chris Burke / Baseball
Benjamin Canham / Rowing
Romy Cantwell / Rowing
Sarah Cardwell / Squash
Tristan Carter / Canoe Slalom
Olivia Cartwright / Lawn Bowls
Marcus Casamento / Gymnastics
Jacob Cassar / Boxing
Stephanie Catley / Football
Brendan Corey / Short Track Speed Skating
Jai Crawley / Archery
Anna Cripsey / Sailing
Philip Cripsey / Sailing
Tyson Cromie / Lawn Bowls
Mark Crosbee / Canoe Slalom
Sarah Crosbee / Canoe Slalom
Jarryd Dale / Baseball
Shrey Dhand / Badminton
Daniela Di Toro / Para table tennis
Willis Droomer / Surfing
Alison East / Para lawn bowls
Blake Edwards / Water Polo
Lachlan Edwards / Water Polo
Ben Fawcett / Wheelchair Rugby
Laura Foley / Rowing
Tom Foley / Rowing
Harrison Fox / Rowing
Dominic Frederico / Rowing
Emmie Frederico / Rowing
Patrick French / Archery
Eliza Gaffney / Rowing
Riley Galea / Canoe Slalom
Darryl George / Baseball
Callan Gibson / Lacrosse
Hamish Gilsenan / Sailing
Mischa Ginns / Para Badminton
Georgie Gleeson / Rowing
Imogen Grzemski / Archery
Kayson Goh / Badminton
Shae Graham / Wheelchair Rugby
Fergus Hamilton / Rowing
Laura Harding / Sailing
Campbell Harrison / Sport Climbing
Ellie Harrison / Surfing
Dylan Harari / Lacrosse
Jake Harvey / Skateboarding
Connor Hayes / Squash
Darcy Hayes / Squash
Dean Hewitt / Curling
Winston Hooper / Rowing
Donnie Howard / Lacrosse
Nicholas Howard / Gymnastics
Lauren Hunter / Lacrosse
Xavier Huxtable / Surfing
Omer Izaz / Boxing
Casey Imeneo / Sailing
Scotty James / Snowboarding
Joanne Joseph / Squash
Simon Keenan / Rowing
Stephanie Kelly / Lacrosse
Jon Kennedy / Baseball
Zara Kfouri / Rowing
Jayden Kim / Baseball
Sophie Kurzman / Lawn Bowls
Sarah Larcombe / Para Sport Climbing
Rohan Lavery / Rowing
Zara Lavery / Rowing
Kylie Lavis / Lawn Bowls
Lina Lei OAM / Para table tennis
Yangzi Liu / Table Tennis
Tara Logan / Water Polo
Dallas Loughridge / Basketball
Nicholas Lum / Table Tennis
Susannah Lutze / Rowing
Finn Luu / Table Tennis
Lin Ma / Para table tennis
Oceana Mackenzie / Sport Climbing
Eziyoda Magbegor / Basketball
Daniel Magasanik / Water Polo
Sarah Marriott / Rowing
Timothy Masters / Rowing
Lukas Matic / Rowing
Kate McDonald / Gymnastics
Tyla McDonald / Boxing
James McQuillan / Wheelchair Rugby
Jade Melbourne / Basketball
Cassandra Millerick / Lawn Bowls
Fraser Miscamble / Rowing
Jean Mitchell / Rowing
Dylan Molinaro / Squash
Danelle Mollison / Lacrosse
Sebastian Montalto / Canoe Slalom
Jessica Morrison OAM / Rowing
Anna Morrison / Rowing
Bridget Murphy / Para equestrian
Tyson Mutsch / Water Polo
Archie Nelson / Canoe Slalom
Georgia O'Callaghan / Canoe Slalom
Felix Oliver / Rowing
Laura Paeglis / Archery
Caitlin Parker / Boxing
Nathan Pellissier / Para table tennis
Lisa Phillips / Lawn Bowls
Jemma Potts / Water Polo
Lucas Protopapas / Para lawn bowls
Connie Psihogios / Table Tennis
Oliver Purcell / Water Polo
Stephanie Reid / Basketball
Austin Reinehr / Rowing
Sophie Reinehr / Rowing
Jack Robertson / Rowing
India Robinson / Surfing
Maddison Rocci / Basketball
Livia Rosaia / Rowing
Benjamin Ross / Canoe Slalom
Maddison Ryan / Basketball
Aditya Sareen / Table Tennis
Lauren Scherf / Basketball
Breanna Scott / Gymnastics
Hannah Scott / Softball
Alanna Smith / Basketball
Nick Smith / Rowing
Robinson Smith / Baseball
Sarah Smith / Lacrosse
Declan Speirs / Baseball
James Stamp / Canoe Slalom
Maya Stasiuk / Sport Climbing
Lucy Stephan OAM / Rowing
Alicia Tan / Gymnastics
Glen Todd / Para sport climbing
Lauren Tolve / Lacrosse
Blake Townsend / Baseball
Hayley Verbunt / Rowing
Alexandra Viney / Para rowing
Celine Vinot / Para badminton
Zoe Vorenas / Para equestrian
Alex Vuillermin / Para rowing
Cameron Wales / Wheelchair Rugby
Kristy Wallace / Basketball
Katrina Werry / Rowing
Aaron Whitefield / Baseball
Emily Whitehead / Gymnastics
Angus Widdicombe / Rowing
Marissa Williamson Pohlman / Boxing
Aaliyah Wilson / Skateboarding
Keefer Wilson / Skateboarding
Marlee Wood / Lacrosse
Hamish Wynn-Pope / Rowing
Qian Yang OAM / Para table tennis
Angela Yu / Badminton
Bonnie Yu / Lacrosse

TRAINING VENUES

Australian Institute of Sport, ACT
Penrith Whitewater Stadium, NSW
Surfing Australia High Performance Centre (HPC), NSW

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

FUTURE TALENT PROGRAM

The Future Talent Program continues the successful partnership between the VIS and the Carbine Club, with a shared vision of fast-tracking the next generation of talented athletes and supporting those with the greatest potential to succeed at the highest level of sport.

Through the program, a select group of promising VIS athletes receive grants to undertake specially designed, high-impact performance enhancement projects. These exciting initiatives provide athletes with valuable opportunities to accelerate their development and maximise their potential on the pathway to elite competition.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 ISA World Surfing Games – La Bocana, El Salvador
- Ellie Harrison – 1st Shortboard Team

2025 IFSC Para Climbing World Championships – Seoul, South Korea
- Sarah Larcombe – 2nd Women's Lead AL2

2025 Para Climbing National Championships – Victoria, Australia
- Sarah Larcombe – 1st Women's Lead AL2

2026 IFSC Para Climbing World Cup – Salt Lake City, USA
- Sarah Larcombe – 2nd Women's Lead AL2

2025 ICF Junior and U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships – Foix, France
- Benjamin Ross – 5th Men's C1 Team

2025 ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships – Penrith, Australia
- Benjamin Ross – 4th Men's C1 Team

2025 World Skate Games World Championship – Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Keefer Wilson – 5th Men's Park

PROGRAM STAFF

David Madigan
General Manager High Performance – IASP / FTP

Emily Hamilton-Smith
Performance Coordinator

Olivia Jarvis
Performance Coordinator (parental leave from July 2025)

Charli Kappa
Performance Coordinator (from July 2025)

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Sports Physicians
Dr Alice McNamara
Dr James Ooi
Dr Anik Shawdon
Dr Susan White AM

Performance Psychologists
Caroline Anderson
Daniel Dymond

Physiotherapists
Josh Ferguson
Fiona Jacobs (from August 2025)
Kane Spagnolo

Soft Tissue Therapists
Emily Athanasiou

Physical Preparation Coaches
Cate Gifford
Jarrod Vos
Matthew Vassie
Jono Wallace Smith

Sports Dietitians
Elaine Bo
Louise Cato
Sarina Lococo
Rachel Stentiford

Performance Lifestyle Advisers
Shenae Keleher
William Pyle (from September 2025)
Sam Waters

ATHLETES

Ellie Harrison / Surfing
Sarah Larcombe / Para sport climbing
Benjamin Ross / Canoe
Keefer Wilson / Skateboarding

TRAINING VENUES

VIS Gymnasium
Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre
National Water Sports Centre
Penrith Whitewater Stadium
Surfing Australia High Performance Centre (HPC)
The Shed Skatepark
Urban Climb Collingwood & Blackburn

SPONSORS

Carbine Club

Two athletes from the initial 2011 Future Talent Program intake are still on scholarship and competing at the international level: Scotty James (snowboarding) and Laetisha Scanlan (shooting)



IMAGE: ELLIE HARRISON
CREDIT: GETTY



IMAGE: VIS PARA SPORT UNIT EIGHT-WEEK PROGRAM

VIS SPORTS 2025/2026

PARA SPORT UNIT

The PSU continued to strengthen Victoria's Para sport pathway throughout 25/26, creating greater opportunities for athletes with disability to access high performance coaching, performance support and development opportunities. Through strong partnerships with PA, the AIS, NSOs, Regional Academies and community stakeholders, the Unit expanded athlete identification, development and transition opportunities across multiple sports.

The PSU focused on building sustainable athlete pathways, supporting emerging athletes through the Accelerate Program, sport sampling opportunities, targeted education sessions and individual athlete planning. Continued growth in athlete engagement, expansion of coaching and support services, and closer integration with VIS performance programs positioned the Unit as a key contributor to Australia's future Paralympic success.

In 2026, in partnership with PA, the PSU hosted its inaugural Allied Health Referral Forum, bringing together health professionals, performance providers and Para sport stakeholders to strengthen referral pathways, improve Para sport literacy and enhance access to high-quality support services for athletes with disability across Victoria.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The PSU established a dedicated workforce, including specialist coaching, performance coordination and classification support roles, to strengthen Para athlete development across Victoria.
- More than 170 athletes registered with the PSU, progressing through talent identification, Accelerate and sport-specific development pathways across multiple Paralympic sports.
- The inaugural VIS Para Sport Talent Program engaged 20 emerging athletes over eight weeks, providing sport sampling and education opportunities across athletics, swimming, cycling, wheelchair basketball, table tennis, badminton, archery and triathlon.
- 52 athletes were identified for the Accelerate Program and provided targeted development opportunities, with several progressing towards formal classification and national high performance pathways.
- The VIS secured funding and commenced planning for a Regional Academy Para Talent Identification Pilot in partnership with SRV, PA and regional academies, expanding Para talent pathways across Ballarat, Barwon and South West Victoria.
- 15 athletes progressed into national categorised programs, demonstrating the PSU's growing impact on athlete identification, transition and long-term Paralympic development, including Thomas McGough's selection for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Jack Swift
VIS Para Sport Unit Manager (until May 2026)

Rebecca Dicello
Para Sport Transition Coach (until June 2026)
Acting VIS Para Sport Unit Manager (from June 2026)

Dr Bronwyn Anderson
Sports Physician

Tyson Basford
Physical Preparation Coach

Christine Camiller
Para Sport Unit Coordinator & Administration Support

Andrew Cameron
Physiotherapist

Michael Coppo
Paralympics Australia Para sport & Classification Adviser VIS/TIS (until June 2026)

Anula Costa
Para Sport Athletics Coach

Samantha de Riter
Para Sport Transition Coach (from June 2026)

Kim Gray
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Alex Hirschauer
Para Unit Swim Coach

Ben King
Physical Preparation Coach

Tamara Lidums
Physiotherapist

VIS 2025/2026

PERFORMANCE

The VIS Performance Team delivers integrated support across Performance Science, Physical Preparation, Data Intelligence, Innovation, Research, Coaching Development and the DPE. Working with athletes, coaches, NSOs and system partners, the team continues to create environments that drive performance outcomes and long-term development.

Throughout the year, VIS practitioners supported national teams and major international campaigns across a wide range of sports, including Para sport. Growth in the VIS PSU, workforce capability, data and technology use, and practitioner development ensured athletes and coaches benefited from high-quality, evidence-informed support.

Looking ahead to LA 2028, French Alps 2030 and Brisbane 2032, the VIS remains committed to collaborative, athlete-focused performance support that helps Victorian athletes and coaches win well.

The Daily Performance Environment

Creating world-class DPEs remains a core priority. The VIS is committed to providing athletes with quality coaching, integrated support and training environments that support wellbeing, development and long-term performance.

Athletes consistently identified coaching, strength and conditioning, physiotherapy, performance health and broader support services as key contributors to progress. Strong coach-athlete relationships and a collaborative multidisciplinary approach continue to define the VIS environment.

The VIS strengthened connections between coaches, athletes and support teams through ways of working workshops, enhanced planning frameworks and greater alignment across disciplines. These approaches improved communication, clarified roles and enhanced athlete-centred support.

The VIS also remained focused on improving support for regional athletes, increasing access to specialist services and using technology and data to inform decision-making.

Coaching

The VIS remains committed to developing world-class coaches and coaching environments that underpin athlete success. In partnership with the AIS, NSOs and National Institute Network (NIN), the VIS continued to invest in coach capability, leadership development and high-performing coaching communities.

A key focus was the PACE Framework (Plan, Align, Check, Evolve), which provides a structured approach to planning, review and alignment with NSO High Performance Plans, What It Takes To Win and Athlete Development Frameworks.

Coaches engaged in development opportunities including mentor support, Coach Away Days, Communities of Practice, Lego® Serious Play workshops, individual development planning and targeted leadership initiatives. VIS coaches and staff also contributed to AIS Coach Development programs, while the VIS hosted an AIS Generation 2032 Learning Lab focused on performance teaming.

The organisation also secured an AIS High Performance Para Coach Development Initiative Grant and commenced development of a dedicated Para Coach Development Program.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Two silver medals at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games, Scotty James (Men's Snowboard Halfpipe) and Danielle Scott (Women's Aerials), contributing 33% of Australia's total medal haul and helping Australia achieve its most successful Winter Olympic Games campaign.
- Seven VIS athletes were selected to represent Australia at the 2026 Milano Cortina Winter Olympic Games, accounting for 13% of the Australian Team and delivering two medals and one additional top-eight performance through the Aerials Mixed Team event, who placed fourth.
- Dean Hewitt and Tahli Gill (QAS) made history by winning Australia's first World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, securing the nation's maiden world title in curling and further establishing the program as a genuine contender on the international stage.
- VIS Performance Science and Physical Preparation staff secured multiple national team appointments, with practitioners supporting Athletics Australia, Swimming Australia (Olympic and Paralympic) Hockey Australia, and major international campaigns across athletics, hockey, cycling.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Rebekah Webster
Director High Performance

Dr Harry Brennan
General Manager High Performance

Hannah Every-Hall OLY
General Manager High Performance

Emily Hamilton-Smith
Performance Coordinator

Laine Heidenreich
Data Scientist

Olivia Jarvis
Performance Coordinator (parental leave from July 2025)

Charli Kappa
Performance Coordinator (from July 2025)

Claire Lambe
AIS Coach Development Lead - VIS (parental leave from May 2026)

David Madigan
General Manager High Performance - IASP / FTP

Demis Maslo
Data Intelligence Manager

Will Morgan
General Manager Performance Support

Stacey Morlang
Coach Developer (from May 2026)

Stacia Strain
Coach Developer (until May 2026)
AIS Coach Development Lead (from May 2026)

Matthew Thompson
Performance Coordinator

Nicole Tumblety
Performance Coordinator (until February 2026)

Jess Walsh
Performance Coordinator (from February 2026)



IMAGE: VIS MEN'S HOCKEY PROGRAM

DATA INTELLIGENCE

The Data Intelligence team strengthened the VIS's data foundations by standing up secure, scalable infrastructure to house high performance data and host reporting tools and analytics platforms, giving the organisation a more secure, scalable and centralised foundation for data-driven decision-making. The team also contributed to the organisation's AI principles and roadmap, helping shape responsible and effective use of AI across performance and business functions.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launching a dedicated platform to showcase VIS athletes competing at the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, providing staff and stakeholders with real-time alerts for event schedules and results.
- Building a dedicated platform to enhance reporting against the VIS Strategic Plan, giving the Executive Team clearer visibility of progress and performance against organisational priorities.
- Deploying automated reporting processes and data pipelines across eight sports: athletics, cycling, hockey, lacrosse, netball, rowing, shooting, and wheelchair basketball.
- Developing and deploying new tools for data processing and dashboard reporting across four performance science disciplines: biomechanics, performance analysis, physiology, and skill acquisition.

INNOVATION

Innovation at the VIS continues to focus on solving practical performance challenges and improving how services are delivered to athletes and coaches. During 25/26, the organisation progressed a formal Innovation Strategy, shifting focus from technology adoption alone to process innovation, creative problem-solving and emerging technologies that can create meaningful performance advantages.

Several innovation projects were advanced across performance support and organisational operations, including AI-supported data collection tools, predictive modelling applications, automated reporting systems and athlete monitoring solutions. Data Intelligence and Performance Science teams also worked closely to develop more efficient data workflows and decision-support tools for coaches and practitioners.

The VIS strengthened its long-term innovation capability through collaboration with universities, industry partners and technology organisations, while planning began for a flagship artificial intelligence project focused on augmenting coach and practitioner decision-making.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Development of the VIS Innovation Strategy to guide future innovation activity.
- Progression of AI-enabled projects to improve data collection, reporting and decision-making processes.



IMAGE: ABBEY CALDWELL
CREDIT: LIGHT KNIFE/BEN LEVY

RESEARCH

The 25/26 year marked a significant period of growth for research at the VIS, underpinned by stronger partnerships, greater athlete involvement and an expanding pipeline of applied projects. The inaugural Professor of Research position was established as a joint appointment between the VIS and La Trobe University, strengthening leadership and connection across the research ecosystem with Dr Ebonie Rio being appointed. The VIS continues to be a shining light in research as one of 11 International Olympic Committee (IOC) Research Centres in the world and the only in Australia.

Athlete and practitioner voice also became more embedded in the program, with the VAA joining the Research Council and the introduction of the VIS-STARS group, bringing together Students, Trainees and Researchers. The VIS also supported 11 embedded PhD students across current projects.

Three research projects were completed during the year, including the organisation's first research in Para sport. New and ongoing collaborations continued with La Trobe University, Deakin University and Australian Catholic University (ACU), while additional projects commenced in lumbar bone stress, lower-limb strength and power, iron deficiency in elite athletes and athlete recruitment preferences.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Inaugural Professor of Research position - embedded, joint VIS and La Trobe University.
- VAA joined research council.
- Established VIS-STARS group.
- 11 embedded PhD students.
- Three completed projects including the VIS's first research in Para sport.
- Two grant applications submitted.

PERFORMANCE SCIENCE

Performance Science supports athletes and coaches with scientific expertise, technology and performance data to inform decisions, optimise preparation and improve competition outcomes. Working across physiology, movement science, performance analysis and skill acquisition, practitioners deliver evidence-based solutions that support athlete development.

This year, staff held roles with national organisations and major international campaigns, supporting Athletics Australia, Swimming Australia, Hockey Australia and Curling Australia at world championships, national camps and benchmark events. Their expertise contributed to preparation, performance planning and competition delivery across sports.

The department expanded capability through applied research and innovation, including biomechanical analysis for athletics, wheelchair-sport assessment frameworks, contextual performance databases for shooting, AI-enabled physiology projects and new altitude-training infrastructure. Performance analysis also supported international campaigns in netball, wheelchair basketball and boxing.

Traineeships and university partnerships continued to build capability, with honours students, PhD candidates and interns contributing to applied projects across VIS programs.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr Avish Sharma appointed lead Physiologist for Australian Athletics 2025 World Championship campaign in Tokyo and provided support to World Para Athletics campaigns.
- Dr Aaron Balloch also appointed as Australian Athletics lead Biomechanist.
- Dr Victoria Brackley appointed Team Biomechanist for the 2025 World Para Swimming Championships and led development of an innovative wheelchair rugby chair-fitting framework in collaboration with AIS Engineering.
- Mathew Harris appointed AIS National Performance Support Lead - Performance Analysis and Dr Lachlan Mitchell AIS National Performance Support Lead - Physiology recognising the national impact of VIS performance science capability.
- The Performance Science talent pathway continued to deliver outstanding outcomes, with VIS interns and honours students progressing to impactful research and industry opportunities. Hannah Schmidt was awarded a Deakin University APA Scholarship following her athletics honours project, while Josh Nanayakkara and Brooke Thwaites transitioned from VIS internships into honours research projects supporting elite swimming and wheelchair basketball performance environments.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Dr Aaron Balloch
Assistant Manager - Biomechanist

Mathew Harris
Assistant Manager - Performance Analysis

Dr Lachlan Mitchell
Assistant Manager - Physiology

Alex Bauer
Performance Scientist
(from June 2026)

Milli Bilson
Performance Scientist

Dr Victoria Brackley
Performance Scientist

Dr Peter Browne
Performance Scientist

Karla Bulte
Performance Scientist
(from May 2026)

Jason Churches
Performance Scientist
(from June 2026)

Lucy Harris
Performance Scientist

Ryan Hatfield
Performance Scientist

Hannah Schmidt
Performance Scientist
(from July 2025)

Lucy Scott
Performance Scientist
(until May 2026)

Dr Avish Sharma
Performance Scientist

Dr Tom Topham
Performance Scientist
(until May 2026)

PHYSICAL PREPARATION

The Physical Preparation team works closely with coaches, Performance Science and Performance Health staff to develop resilient athletes capable of performing consistently on the international stage. Across VIS sport programs, the IASP and PSU, practitioners delivered integrated support focused on physical capacity, training quality and competition readiness.

VIS physical preparation staff continued to contribute within national high performance systems. Staff were appointed to national team roles, supported benchmark events and travelled with athletes across athletics, hockey, archery, swimming, diving, winter sports, combat sports and wheelchair basketball. These opportunities reflect the growing national recognition of the expertise within the VIS Physical Preparation team.

The department also maintained a strong commitment to workforce development through the AIS Practitioner Development Program, the VIS Physical Preparation Traineeship and closer alignment with the Performance Science Traineeship Program.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Four VIS staff appointed in Lead roles with our NSO partners, including Stephanie Mundy appointed National Strength and Conditioning Lead for Australian Athletics Pathways and Hana Glasgow-Palmer appointed National Lead for Blind Sports Australia.
- Cate Gifford and Tyson Basford selected for the AIS Practitioner Development Program.
- The VIS Physical Preparation Traineeship continued to be recognised as a benchmark practitioner development program within the NIN.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Cory Innes
Assistant Manager Physical Preparation

Nathan Lee
Assistant Manager Physical Preparation

Jono Wallace Smith
Assistant Manager Physical Preparation

Tyson Basford
Physical Preparation Coach

Eva Cafolla
Physical Preparation Coach

Lyndsay Clarke
Physical Preparation Coach

Cate Gifford
Physical Preparation Coach

Hana Glasgow-Palmer
Physical Preparation Coach
(from October 2025)

Yosup Kim
Physical Preparation Coach

Ben King
Physical Preparation Coach

Stephanie Mundy
Physical Preparation Coach

Luke Stevens
Physical Preparation Coach
(from March 2026)

Matthew Vassie
Physical Preparation Coach

Jarrod Vos
Physical Preparation Coach

Ben Willey
Physical Preparation Coach
(until April 2026)

Joel Wood
Physical Preparation Coach

VIS 2025/2026

PERFORMANCE HEALTH

The Performance Health team is led by the Director Performance Health/Chief Medical Officer, Dr Susan White AM. The team brings extensive high performance sport experience across sports medicine, physiotherapy, soft tissue therapy, nutrition, PL and performance psychology, working collaboratively with coaches, sport science and physical preparation staff within each sport.

The Performance Health team delivers a proactive program focused on injury and illness prevention, early detection and management, alongside individualised sport-specific nutrition and psychology support. PL professionals support athletes to live out the VIS mission and empower athletes to succeed in sport and life, within a holistic framework of work and study. Services are delivered onsite and via telehealth, with an embedded servicing model tailored to each athlete's needs.

NUTRITION

The VIS nutrition team consists of eight Sports Dietitians embedded within sport programs, providing nutrition support to VIS scholarship athletes. Working closely with coaches and multidisciplinary staff, they deliver evidence-based strategies aligned with health and performance goals.

Services include nutrition screening, consultations, periodised training and competition plans, travel nutrition, hydration testing, physique assessment and supplement guidance. The team also supports practical athlete education and advises on catering for camps, competitions and events.

The team experienced a major leadership transition in early 2026, with Nutrition Manager Kylie Andrew appointed National Performance Nutrition Lead at the ASC after 20 years at the VIS. Dr Emily Meehan was appointed Nutrition Manager, Louise Cato Assistant Nutrition Manager, and an Early Career Dietitian role was introduced to support workforce development and succession planning.

Nutrition staff also contributed nationally and internationally, including Kylie Andrew's appointment as Lead Dietitian for the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and Rachel Stentiford's support for athletes preparing for the Milano Cortina Winter Olympic Games. Innovation and education remained a focus through the VIS Culinary Nutrition App, EDIS 2.0, Making Weight Guidelines, and contributions to the Empower Series, LH and system-wide working groups.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Supported 11 student placements from University of the Sunshine Coast, Deakin and Monash Universities. Projects included an athlete learning preference survey and nutrition budgeting resource, recipe development and testing for the LH, and remote literature reviews on pre-determined VIS topics.

Extended impact beyond the high performance environment through education delivery to Regional Academies, sporting organisations and schools. As part of the Department of Education-funded Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series, the team delivered the Nutrition Advancement Program, engaging more than 400 students through sessions hosted at the VIS.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Kylie Andrew
Nutrition Manager, Advanced Sports Dietitian (until January 2026)

Bryce Anderson
Accredited Sports Dietitian (from June 2026)

Dr Emily Meehan
Nutrition Manager, Advanced Sports Dietitian (from February 2026)

Louise Cato
Assistant Nutrition Manager, Advanced Sports Dietitian (from May 2026)

Elaine Bo
Accredited Sports Dietitian

Sarina Lococo
Advanced Sports Dietitian

Emily McNeil
Early Career Dietitian, Accredited Sports Dietitian (from June 2026)

Jessica Rothwell
Advanced Sports Dietitian

Rachel Stentiford
Advanced Sports Dietitian

Siobhan Crawshay
Advanced Sports Dietitian (until May 2026)

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

Deakin University - DEXA



PERFORMANCE LIFESTYLE

The VIS PL team supports athletes to achieve sustained success through holistic wellbeing, personal development (PD) and dual-career support, embedded across sport programs and individual performance planning. The team's work spans learning, leadership, career pathways, transition planning and wellbeing, aligned with the HP 2032+ Win Well strategy and the VIS mission. Key 25/26 priorities included launching the VIS LH, redeveloping the Athlete Leadership Program, delivering National Careers Week, progressing employment pathways through the Dual Career Development portfolio, implementing targeted wellbeing support across scholarship programs, and contributing to national athlete wellbeing initiatives.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Learning Hub
The PL team played a key role in developing and launching the VIS LH, a central platform for sharing information, streamlining processes and enhancing engagement across athletes, coaches, staff and the wider community. The LH currently hosts PL education and resources, including Year 12 Transition Series registrations and recordings, a recipe bank, and a career and education repository. Grace Claringbold was appointed Learning Designer for the LH, supporting all VIS departments with content publishing.

Leadership Program
The VIS Athlete Leadership Program was redeveloped in 2025 to strengthen athlete leadership capability and support proactive life management, building on a successful 2023 pilot that received strong participant feedback. Developed by Sam Waters and Aimie Rocci and delivered jointly by the PL and Performance Psychology teams, the program runs five in-person Leadership Labs over four months, open to all VIS athletes via self-nomination or coach/staff nomination, with a focus on the Self & Others domains of the HP Leadership Capability Framework. Three Labs have been delivered to 12 athletes across multiple sports, with two further Labs and a full evaluation still to come ahead of the next cohort.

National Careers Week
National Careers Week 2026 initiatives were delivered by Kim Gray, Leesa Gallard and the VIS PL team in May, in response to athlete demand for practical work and income opportunities while managing elite sport. The week included industry sessions on becoming a Teacher/Inclusion Aide, temp work and working at State Sport Centres, the annual Year 12 Transition Series 'Elite Sport Education Network' event, and a VIS-wide career-themed morning tea, aligned with the national 2026 theme of Connect, Create, Thrive. These initiatives aimed to build athletes' career awareness and confidence, connect them directly with employers, education providers and mentors, and provide job readiness resources to strengthen dual-career outcomes. Networking from these events has already begun feeding into the initial development of the VIS Employment Program within the Dual Career Development portfolio.

National Leaders in Athlete Wellbeing
The VIS continues to set standards and demonstrate leadership across the high performance wellbeing landscape. All VIS PL staff attended the 2026 AIS Wellbeing & Engagement Summit, themed "Wellbeing in Action: Embedding Shared Practice Across the System." Shenae Keleher and Jamie McPherson delivered the First Nations Journey Mapping workshop, Claringbold presented on the VIS LH, and CEO Nicole Livingstone AO reinforced the work PL does, sharing her own lived experience of how network-wide athlete wellbeing supported her as an athlete and continues to support her today.

The VIS continues to provide insight and expertise via representation and engagement with network-wide initiatives, including:

- Representation on the AIS Education and Personal Development Resource Working Groups
- Gallard on the AIS Wellbeing Engagement Advisory Group
- William Pyle and Shenae Keleher serving as a VIS Child Safe representative and Chair of the AFL Youth Advisory Group
- Hosting and providing PL and athlete panel expertise at the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) 'Game On' Player Development Manager Conference
- Establishing the inaugural Victorian Wellbeing Network, bringing together athlete wellbeing practitioners across Victoria to network and share best practice

The VIS continues to embed PL support, in collaboration with coaches and performance teams, within Sport and Individual Scholarship programs, implementing wellbeing initiatives that strengthen athlete health, connection and support, including targeted 2026 programs for three post-partum athlete mothers returning to sport.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Leesa Gallard
Performance Lifestyle Manager

Kim Gray
Senior Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Grace Claringbold
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Shenae Keleher
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Brooke Penfold
Performance Lifestyle Adviser
(from March 2026)

William Pyle
Performance Lifestyle Adviser
(from September 2025)

Aimie Rocci
Performance Lifestyle Adviser
(from September 2025)

Sam Waters
Performance Lifestyle Adviser

Jesse Nissen
Placement Student Organisational Psychology - Deakin University
(from May 2026)

92%
of VIS athletes have a dual career

222
Athlete engagements in PD activities

VIS 2025/2026

PERFORMANCE HEALTH SERVICES

PERFORMANCE PSYCHOLOGY

The Performance Psychology team has continued to contribute to performance excellence across the VIS and the broader Australian high performance system. This year has been shaped by strategy building, system development and collaboration across performance environments.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

A key priority has been the development of a more connected and contemporary service, including the VIS Performance Psychology Journal to support athlete reflection, performance planning, values-based action and psychological development.

The team has also supported staff capability across the VIS, helping athletes, coaches and staff better understand strengths and pressure responses and adapt in high performance conditions. Neurodiversity has been another important focus, with Sam McLeod leading professional development to strengthen neuroinclusive practice across the VIS system.

Dean Cooper travelled to the 2026 FIFA World Cup with the Socceroos, while Laura Cosgrove expanded her national role as Lead Psychologist with Diving Australia. The team also welcomed Nick Ferrier and Natalie Kyan in June, adding further depth and expertise across sport, performing arts, Para sport, AFL and athlete wellbeing.

Overall, the team has continued to provide high-quality individual and program support while building the resources and capability needed to meet the evolving demands of high performance sport.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Daniel Dymond
Performance Psychology Manager

Caroline Anderson
Performance Psychologist

Dean Cooper
Performance Psychologist

Laura Cosgrove
Performance Psychologist

Nick Ferrier
Performance Psychologist (from June 2026)

Emma Hall
Performance Psychologist (until April 2026)

Natalie Kyan
Performance Psychologist (from June 2026)

Sam McLeod
Performance Psychologist

Amber Ross
Performance Psychologist (until April 2026)

Bree Van Ryswyk
Performance Psychologist

PHYSIOTHERAPY/SOFT TISSUE THERAPY

For the VIS Sports Physiotherapy team, maintaining athlete health is dually an intrinsic objective (an ethical imperative) and an instrumental goal (enhancing athletic performance). This principle of performance health underpins all our activities. It propels the team to work comprehensively across the injury prevention and performance continuum, from early detection and intervention to prompt return with performance enhancement, and then cycling back through epidemiological analysis to primary prevention monitoring and implementation.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the past year, the VIS Physiotherapy team has undergone a period of consolidation, focused on assessing outputs and learning from the Paris cycle to reset its performance healthcare strategy in line with the updated VIS organisational strategy. Program allocations and efficiency and effectiveness goals have also been reset for the LA cycle and beyond.

The team has continued to contribute to the national high performance system. Several team members have assumed NSO lead roles, and most of the team has supported national and international events throughout the year.

The team has further refined its analysis of epidemiological data across VIS sport programs and is exploring how artificial intelligence can provide greater insight from its growing data pool. This will support new approaches to injury prevention, treatment and performance maximisation.

The year also included Dr Ebonie Rio's appointment to the Professor of Research jointly between the VIS and La Trobe University, Andrew Cameron's profile in the Australian Physiotherapy Association magazine on inclusive language and safer sporting environments, and the inaugural Allied Health workshop through the PSU, which brought together more than 50 community allied health providers to strengthen referral pathways for potential Para sport athletes. The team farewelled Alison Low and welcomed Brooke Bakaric into the VIS Physiotherapy Post Graduate Scholar role, the second iteration of the position.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Steve Hawkins
Manager, Physiotherapy and Soft Tissue Therapy
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Alison Low
Deputy Manager, Physiotherapy and Soft Tissue Therapy (until January 2026)
Specialist Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Dr Ebonie Rio
Deputy Manager, Physiotherapy and Soft Tissue Therapy
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Lachlan Avery
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Amber Bennett
Physiotherapist (until November 2026)

Brooke Bakaric
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist Post Graduate Scholar (from March 2026)

Andrew Cameron
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Kevin Craigie
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Joshua Ferguson
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Andrew Fooks
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Jacqueline Gurr
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist (parental leave from October 2025)

Emma Iacovou
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Fiona Jacobs
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist (from October 2025)

Tamara Lidums
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Kate Macdermid
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Katie Sandford
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Kane Spagnolo
Sports & Exercise Physiotherapist

Emily Athanasiou
Soft Tissue Therapist

Gillian Niven
Soft Tissue Therapist

SUPPORTER

Club Warehouse



SPORTS MEDICINE

The VIS Medical Department consists of six Sport and Exercise physicians, a Sport and Exercise Medicine registrar and a nurse. The team provides medical support to all VIS athletes, including annual medical reviews, injury and illness management, concussion assessment, anti-doping advice, iron deficiency treatment, female athlete health and postpartum return to sport care.

The department also supports athletes through travel medicine, psychological and psychiatric referrals, fertility-related advice and a strong external referral network. Medical staff contribute across the wider sporting system through advisory, team doctor and committee roles with national and international organisations.

Cardiologists from St Vincent's Heart Centre toured the VIS this year. A/Prof Andre La Gerche rose to the challenge set by diving athlete Laura Hingston to jump off the 10m diving board!

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Presentations at National Conferences on: iron management at VIS, infection control at major games, antidoping education.
- IOC research group partner, with AIS and La Trobe Sport and Exercise Medicine Research Centre.
- Female athlete education delivered to VIS athletes and coaches including: menstrual cycle, REDs and fertility considerations.
- Creation of updated VIS guidelines for sleep management, weight-making, and fertility preservation.
- Providing in house pathology, ECG, iron infusions.
- Providing medical advice remotely while athletes travel and compete overseas.
- Para athlete nursing and medical co-care for wound and special requirements.
- Doctors provided medical coverage at major games (Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic Winter Games, planning and preparation for Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games).

The team presented at national conferences on iron management, infection control at major games and anti-doping education. The VIS also continued work as an IOC research partner with the AIS and La Trobe Sport and Exercise Medicine Research Centre.

A major focus was digital health and medical integration, including the responsible implementation of AI with attention to data security, access permissions, confidentiality and athlete consent. Female athlete education was delivered to VIS athletes and coaches, and updated VIS guidelines were created for sleep management, weight-making and fertility preservation.

The department continued to provide in-house pathology, ECGs, iron infusions and remote medical advice for athletes travelling overseas. It also supported Para athletes through nursing and medical co-care, while doctors provided coverage at major games and supported planning for Glasgow 2026.

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT STAFF

Dr Susan White AM
Director Performance Health
Chief Medical Officer
Sports and Exercise Physician

Dr Bronwyn Anderson
Sports and Exercise Medicine Registrar

Dr Philippa Inge
Sports and Exercise Physician

Dr Alice McNamara
Sports and Exercise Physician

Dr James Ooi
Sports and Exercise Physician

Dr Anik Shawdon
Sports and Exercise Physician

Dr Patrick Sunderland
Sports and Exercise Physician

Manna McLeod
Nurse

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

Victoria House Medical Imaging

St Vincent's Heart Centre

VIS 2025/2026

CORPORATE SERVICES

The Corporate Services team is responsible for the provision of the VIS corporate services, including finance and accounting, information and communication technology services, facilities management, strategic projects and partnerships, risk management, reception, travel coordination, asset management, payroll, purchasing, corporate clothing and general office administration.

BUSINESS SERVICES

The Business Services team continues to provide financial management services to staff and stakeholders while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements. Budget management and reporting processes have been updated to provide timely and accurate financial insight for management and programs. This work is supported by Calxa, Xero, Elmo Payroll (Keypay) and Elmo HRCore.

Regular government reporting, compliance and training is also undertaken with SRV within DJSIR. Professional consultants are engaged as required, with legal services provided by Lander and Rogers Lawyers, insurance arranged by the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority, travel managed through CTM Sport, and external audit services conducted by RSD Audit on behalf of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

FACILITIES

Throughout the year, facilities initiatives focused on strengthening the presentation, functionality and overall experience of the VIS environment. Works on updated signage supports the organisation's refreshed brand strategy, mission and values, while recognising the achievements of current and past VIS athletes. Set to be installed across the remainder of 2026.

Key projects:

- Planning is underway for the upgrade of the ground-level VIS recovery facilities adjacent to the Climate Chamber. The project will reconfigure the area into two spaces: a dedicated rest area for quieter, more private recovery, and an adjoining space for broader recovery and training functions.
- Parking permits have also moved fully digital, replacing physical permits and creating a simpler renewal and ordering process. In partnership with Parks Victoria, Reception can now provide a quicker and easier turnaround for parking enquiries.

ICT

The Information Technology team supports and maintains technology infrastructure integrated into key operations at the VIS, playing a crucial role in advancing strategic objectives and safeguarding services.

Key projects have included:

- Redeveloping the VIS website and Learning Management System, delivering a modernised, user-friendly platform for athletes, staff, and the broader community.
- Establishing AI Principles and Roadmap to guide responsible AI adoption, supported by infrastructure investment, staff training, and pilot projects exploring AI's role in high performance, operations and communications and marketing.

COMMERCIAL

Work has progressed in the key areas of our new commercial strategy. New revenue opportunities have come from VIS performance services, educational experiences and product development requests, highlighting strong interest in VIS high performance expertise. Additional revenue has also come from existing projects and partnerships, including the extension of the VIS Advancement Series for 2026 and the renewal of the VIS partnership with 2XU as the 'Official Apparel and Compression Partner of the VIS.'

The renewed 2XU agreement also led to a refresh of the VIS apparel range, with a clean VIS style rolled out to staff and athletes in June 2026, including a signature VIS crew.

Progress has been made in engaging external organisations on product development and partnerships, aligned with the VIS Product Endorsement Guidelines.

The VIS continues to receive strong support from the Victorian Government, the Department of Education and Training, the AIS, PA, Maribyrnong Sports Academy and the Carbine Club.

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Simon Gardam
Director Corporate Services

Mark Brown
ICT Manager

Nathan Crozier
AI & Systems Specialist

Sophia Di Domenico
Facility Manager

Emily Hamilton-Smith
Receptionist

Damien Herbert
Business Services Manager

Charli Kappa
Receptionist

Miriam Keane
Accounts Payable Assistant

Tara Kinder
Receptionist

Elsa Kwan
Accounts Officer

Jessica Li
Accounts Payable Assistant

Alice Neill
Executive & Projects Officer

Cathryn Pruscino
Commercial & Partnerships Manager

Rylee Rametta
Receptionist

Nye Roberts
Receptionist

Maria Swan
Receptionist

Saffron Tambyrajah
Receptionist

Zara Walters
Receptionist

SPONSORS/PARTNERS

Victorian Government
Australian Institute of Sport
Paralympics Australia
Australian Olympic Committee
Commonwealth Games Australia
School Sport Victoria
2XU
Maribyrnong Sports Academy





IMAGE (L–R): SAFFRON TAMBYRAJAH AND SOPHIA DI DOMENICO

VIS 2025/2026

PEOPLE & COMMUNITY

The People & Community team raises VIS's profile and delivers value through the media, marketing, events, First Nations, human resources and community programs, sharing VIS stories and achievements to inspire Victoria and strengthen connections with staff, athletes and the broader community. A key focus for 25/26 was updating digital platforms and embedding best practice models across the business to support a successful runway into LA 2028, alongside a strong focus on Commonwealth Games team announcements and promotion of VIS athletes across all sports, and coverage of the Milano Cortina campaign.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Delivered the inaugural VIS Yarning Circle, bringing together athletes, leaders and First Nations voices.
- Hosted the first Friends of Parliament event, strengthening VIS's government and stakeholder connections.
- Supported the launch of a digital interface with a new website and Learning Management System (LH), creating a stronger platform for sharing information, engaging audiences, and delivering learning opportunities.
- Rolled out an updated look and feel across VIS communications and strategy materials, presenting a more contemporary and unified brand.
- Progressed new branding and signage to carry the organisation through to LA 2028 and beyond.
- Built stronger partnerships with NSOs and media organisations, raising VIS's profile, extending its reach and creating new opportunities to showcase athletes, programs and impact.
- Celebrated VIS AOE winner Scotty James, capping off another standout year for the VIS.

This work is helping position VIS with a clearer, more consistent identity while continuing to deliver value and inspire Victoria.

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Dan Simons
Director People & Community

Imogen Barnett
HR Administrator (from March 2026)

Sarah Dyce
Public Affairs & Marketing Manager

Tess Lloyd OLY
Community Programs & Marketing Coordinator

Jamie McPherson
Our Connection to Country Officer

Kate Paul-Drevensek
Digital Marketing Specialist (until May 2026)

Eadie Rawson
Social Media Assistant

Keely Wallace-Kilbane
HR & Operations Coordinator



VIS 2025/2026

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The Community Programs portfolio comprises five initiatives: BFBW, the VIS Advancement Series (part of the Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series), the Athlete Speaker Program, VIS Tours, and the new VIS Experiences. Across the 25/26 reporting period, over 28,000 participants were engaged through 334 bookings, with 49 VIS Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games sport athletes involved in delivery. Due to strong demand, bookings closed early with a waitlist introduced for several programs.

BFBW is funded by School Sport Victoria and enables VIS athlete speakers to visit Victorian Government schools free of charge. This period, speakers reached more than 23,000 students through 222 school bookings and 255 athlete visits, with some visits including two athletes to support emerging presenters' development. The program reached 80 regional and 142 metropolitan Victorian Government schools, with athletes continuing to prioritise regional visits where possible.

During the Winter Olympic period, a digital download resource was also offered, with 59 schools registering to access it, featuring Airleigh Frigo and Abbey Willcox (aerial skiing) and VIS alum athlete Mitchell Gourley (Para alpine skiing).

The **VIS Advancement Series** provides free nutrition and sport science education sessions to Victorian Government secondary schools, drawing on VIS professional expertise. In 25/26, 1,110 students participated across 32 school bookings, with several schools attending multiple sessions. Bookings closed early due to demand, with a waitlist introduced.

The **Athlete Speaker Program** coordinates speaker engagements primarily outside the Victorian Government school system, reaching 2,377 participants across 24 bookings in 25/26 extending VIS athlete engagement to a broader audience beyond schools.

VIS Tours give visitors the opportunity to connect with VIS athletes while exploring the facilities. Over 1,600 people from a range of organisations, including international groups, visited during the reporting period, with consistently positive feedback on the inspiration and access provided. New athlete tour leaders continue to be introduced to enrich the visitor experience.

VIS Experiences is a new portfolio initiative, with each visit custom designed around a group's learning objectives and interests. Typically delivered as a half-day experience combining VIS staff and athlete involvement, seven VIS Experiences were delivered during the reporting period.

Mentoring opportunities connecting VIS athletes with emerging regional athletes were also introduced this period, with positive feedback supporting continued development of the program.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPATION

334
BOOKINGS
110 Regional
10 International

28,591
ALL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPANTS

49
VIS ATHLETES INVOLVED

BE FIT. BE WELL.

222 School bookings including 80 regional schools

23,207 Students engaged

255 Athlete visits

59 Schools downloaded the 2026 BFBW Winter Olympics Digital Package

ADVANCEMENT SERIES

1,110 Students reached across 32 bookings from Victorian Government secondary schools

ATHLETE SPEAKER PROGRAM

2,377 Participants reached across 24 engagements.

VIS TOURS

1,644 Participants toured the world-class facilities of the VIS across 49 bookings.

VIS EXPERIENCE

253 Participants across seven bookings.

VIS 2025/2026

2025 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

In a year that again saw VIS athletes excel on the world stage, the 2025 AOE recognised three outstanding finalists and another memorable night for the VIS community. Hosted at Melbourne Recital Centre on 11 November, the evening celebrated the achievements, resilience and impact of athletes who continue to inspire Victoria and the nation.

The AOE, the most prestigious honour on the VIS calendar, was presented to snowboarder Scotty James, who claimed the award for a third time. James capped off another remarkable season with a fourth World Championship title, a seventh X Games gold medal and victory at the LAAX World Cup, further cementing his place among Australia's most decorated winter athletes.

The other finalists, Para cyclists Alana Forster and Emily Petricola OAM, also enjoyed exceptional seasons. Forster continued her dominance on the world stage as a double World Champion, while Petricola again proved her class as one of the greats of Para cycling, earning finalist recognition for another outstanding year.

From snowboarding brilliance to Para cycling excellence, the 2025 AOE once again celebrated athletes who succeed at the highest level and embody the VIS mission to empower athletes to succeed in sport and life.

2025 WINNERS

Award of Excellence

SCOTTY JAMES / Snowboard

2XU Performance Lifestyle Award

HANNAH MACDOUGALL / Para triathlon

The Carbine Club Rising Star Award

LILY GRAHAM / Netball

Para Athlete Award

ALANA FORSTER / Para cycling

Sarah Tait Spirit Award

SARA BLICAVS / Basketball

The Frank Pyke Achievement Award

TIM MATTHEWS OAM / Para athletics

Coach Awards

LAURA PEEL / Aerial Skiing

ANNABELLE COLMAN / Athletics

SARAH GIGANTE / Cycling

AOIFE COUGHLAN / Combat

JONAH MERCIECA / Diving

CONNAR OTTERBACH / Hockey - Men's

OLIVIA DOWNES / Hockey - Women's

CHARLI HOEY / Netball

PENNY SMITH / Shooting

AHMED KELLY / Swimming

MAGGIE SANDLES / Triathlon

CHITHIC MACHAR / Wheelchair Basketball

LINA LEI OAM / IASP (Table Tennis)

KATE MCDONALD / Future Talent Program (Gymnastics)

PREVIOUS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

1991 / ROBERT ALLENBY / Golf

1992 / PETER ANTONIE OAM / Rowing

1993 / DANIELLE WOODWARD OAM / Canoeing

1994 / STEVE MONEGHETTI AM/ Athletics

1995 / DANIEL KOWALSKI OAM / Swimming

1996 / OARSOME FOURSOME / Rowing

1997 / CATHERINE FREEMAN AC / Track & Field

1998 / SARAH FITZ-GERALD AM / Squash

1999 / CATHERINE FREEMAN AC / Track & Field

2000 / CATHERINE FREEMAN AC / Track & Field
AARON BADDELEY / Golf
TOM KING OAM & MARK TURNBULL OAM / Sailing

2001 / MATT WELSH OAM / Swimming

2002 / SARAH FITZ-GERALD AM / Squash

2003 / ALISA CAMPLIN AM/ Aerial Skiing

2004 / JAMES TOMKINS OAM & DREW GINN OAM / Rowing

2005 / KATIE MACTIER / Cycling

2006 / GLENN ASHBY MNZM / Sailing

2007 / CADEL EVANS AM / Cycling

2008 / LEISEL JONES OAM/ Swimming

2009 / LEIGH HOWARD / Cycling

2010 / LYDIA LASSILA OAM/ Aerial Skiing

2011 / CADEL EVANS AM/ Cycling

2012 / KIM CROW AM / Rowing
KELLY CARTWRIGHT OAM / Track & Field

2013 / KIM CROW AM / Rowing

2014 / DAVID MORRIS / Aerial Skiing

2015 / DYLAN ALCOTT AO / Wheelchair Tennis

2016 / MACK HORTON OAM / Swimming

2017 / CAROL COOKE AM / Para cycling

2018 / SCOTTY JAMES / Snowboarding

2019 / SCOTTY JAMES / Snowboarding

2020 / *Performance period was included in the 2021 AOE awards

2021 / DYLAN ALCOTT AO / Wheelchair Tennis
LUCY STEPHAN OAM, JESS MORRISON OAM &
ROSIE POPA OAM / Women's Four – Rowing

2022 / JEMIMA MONTAG / Athletics

2023 / AUSTRALIAN DIAMONDS (LIZ WATSON, JO WESTON,
KEIRA AUSTIN) / Netball

2024 / GRACE BROWN OAM / Cycling



















1. Will Morgan (C) poses with Tim James (L) and Celia James
2. Nicole Livingstone AO and Laura Hingston
3. Darryl George poses with VIS CEO Nicole Livingstone AO after accepting the Sarah Tait Spirit Award on behalf of Sara Blicavs
4. Talia Appleton, Lucinda Stewart, Carol Cooke AM and Ruby Roseman-Gannon
5. Melbourne Vixens players Lily Graham, Kate Eddy, Maggie Caris, Mia Lavis, Rudi Ellis and Zara Walters
6. Nicole Livingstone AO, Will Morgan, Ryan Batchelor MP and Dr Lauren Burns OAM
7. Tim Matthews OAM, Lily Graham, Alana Forster and Hannah Macdougall
8. Alisa Camplin-Warner AM, Kate Jenkins AO and Evelyn Halls OAM

VIS 2025/2026

ATHLETE SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF VIS ATHLETES

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tier 1	110	154	**264**
Individual Athletes	84	90	**174**
Future Talent	3	2	**5**
Representative Stream	8	0	**8**
TOTAL	**205**	**246**	**451**

NUMBER OF PARA ATHLETES

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tier 1	23	19	**42**
Individual	12	15	**27**
Future Talent	0	0	**0**
TOTAL	**35**	**34**	**69**

TIER 1 SPORTS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Aerial Skiing	1	14	**15**
Athletics	18	25	**43**
Combat	10	14	**24**
Cycling	20	22	**42**
Diving	5	7	**12**
Hockey - Men's	19	0	**19**
Hockey - Women's	0	19	**19**
Netball	0	33	**33**
Shooting	8	6	**14**
Swimming	12	6	**18**
Triathlon	4	3	**7**
Wheelchair Basketball	13	5	**18**
TOTAL	**110**	**154**	**264**

FUTURE TALENT SPORTS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Canoeing	1	0	**1**
Gymnastics	1	1	**2**
Skateboarding	1	0	**1**
Surfing	0	1	**1**
TOTAL	**3**	**2**	**5**

INDIVIDUAL SPORTS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Archery	1	2	**3**
Badminton	2	1	**3**
Baseball	10	0	**10**
Basketball	0	10	**10**
Bowls	1	6	**7**
Boxing	2	2	**4**
Canoeing	6	2	**8**
Curling	1	0	**1**
Football	0	1	**1**
Gymnastics	2	6	**8**
Lacrosse	8	10	**18**
Para Archery	1	0	**1**
Para Badminton	0	2	**2**
Para Bowls	2	1	**3**
Para Equestrian	0	5	**5**
Para Rowing	0	2	**2**
Para Sport Climbing	1	1	**2**
Para Table Tennis	3	3	**6**
Rowing	18	20	**38**
Sailing	4	4	**8**
Skateboarding	1	1	**2**
Snowboarding	1	1	**2**
Softball	0	1	**1**
Speed Skating	1	0	**1**
Sport Climbing	1	2	**3**
Squash	3	1	**4**
Surfing	2	1	**3**
Table Tennis	4	2	**6**
Water Polo	5	2	**7**
Wheelchair Rugby	4	1	**5**
TOTAL	**84**	**90**	**174**

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Victorian Institute of Sport
Lakeside Stadium, 33 Aughtie Drive
Albert Park, 3206, Victoria, Australia

T +61 3 9425 0000
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